

A
NEW DISPLAY
OF THE
BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND:

OR,

A Description of the most elegant or magnificent PUBLIC
EDIFICES, ROYAL PALACES, NOBLEMEN'S and
GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, and other CURIOSITIES,
natural or artificial, in different Parts of the Kingdom.

ADORNED WITH
A Variety of COPPER-PLATE CUTS, neatly engraved.

*In England's happy Isle we see display'd,
The Charms of Nature, and the Force of Art:
Our Hills and Dales with Verdure all array'd,
All that can please the Eye, or chear the Heart.*

THE SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N :

Printed for R. GOADBY; and sold by J. TOWERS, at
N^o 111, in Fore-street, near Cripplegate; and by R. BALDWIN
N^o. 47, in Pater-noster-row.

M DCC LXXIII.

THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

OF THE ARMY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1862

THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

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P R E F A C E.

AS the principal design of this Work was to give descriptions of the most elegant and magnificent Public Edifices, Royal Palaces, and Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats in England, it was judged not improper to begin with that part of the Kingdom, which is within the distance of about twenty miles round London, where a greater

greater number of these are to be found, than in any other district of the same extent. And as the greatest part of our first Volume is employed in describing this district, it was found most convenient not to attend to the division of the Counties. But in the second Volume, wherein remoter parts of the Kingdom are given an account of, the places described have been exactly classed under their respective Counties.

A description of a greater number of Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats is to be found in this Work, than can be met with in any other publication ; as this was
our

our capital object. And of these a very unusual number of engraved views are given. But in order to render the Work more compleat; some account is also given of all the cities and market-towns in the kingdom, LONDON excepted, a description of which could not have been comprehended within our intended limits.

It is presumed, that this Work will be found an agreeable companion for those who may occasionally visit different parts of England, in order to take a view of the many fine palaces and seats with which this kingdom abounds. And those who may not have an
oppor-

opportunity of personally visiting those delightful retreats, may yet receive no inconsiderable degree of satisfaction, from those accounts and views of them, which are given in this Work.



A
N E W D I S P L A Y
O F T H E
B E A U T I E S O F E N G L A N D .

NOTHING is more natural than a desire of being acquainted with whatever is most beautiful, remarkable, or curious in our own Country. If we are pleasingly gratified with descriptions of foreign countries, surely the curiosities of our native land cannot be less worthy our attention. ENGLAND is not only endeared to us by our connection with it, but has a just claim to our regard from the great variety of natural and artificial curiosities with which it abounds. It is the favourite residence of plenty and of freedom, of wealth, and of commerce; and the many advantages and excellencies with which nature has liberally endowed it, have been aided by the indefatigable industry of the inhabitants; which is sufficiently evinced by the high degree of cultivation which appears in almost every part of the kingdom.

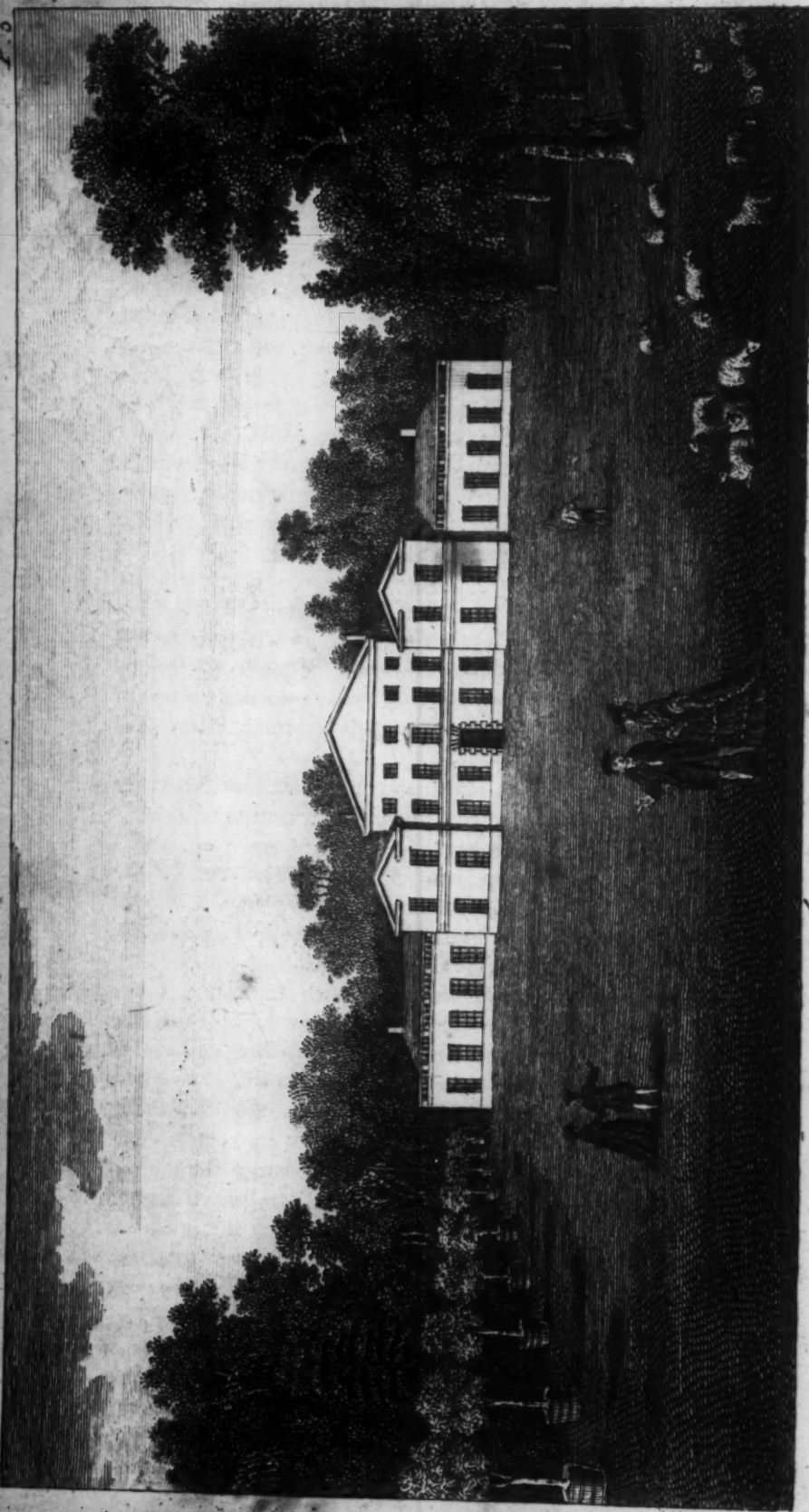
Though the air of England is for the most part thick and heavy, and the weather very precarious, and often extremely foggy:

foggy; yet even this variety of weather is attended with considerable advantages. For, in the first place, it secures the island from those extremes of heat and cold, to which other nations, though within the same degree of latitude, are annually exposed; and it is in a great measure owing to this moderation of the climate, that the inhabitants of this island live to as great an age, as in any part of Europe whatsoever. And that perpetual verdure for which England is remarkable, and for which it is greatly admired by all foreigners who come hither, is occasioned by the refreshing showers and the warm vapours of the sea.

With respect to the climate of England, there is an observation concerning it that was made by King Charles the Second, as we are informed by Sir William Temple, that deserves to be remembered. 'I must needs add one thing, (says Sir William) in favour of our climate, which I heard the King say, and I thought new and right, and truly-like a King of England, that loved and esteemed his own country. 'Twas in reply to some of the company, that were reviling our climate, and extolling those of Italy and Spain, or at least of France. He said, "He thought that was the best climate, where he could be abroad in the air with pleasure, or at least without trouble or inconvenience, the most days of the year, and the most hours of the day; and this he thought he could be in England, more than in any country he knew of in Europe."—And I believe (adds Sir William) it is true, not only of the hot and the cold, but even among our neighbours in France and the Low Countries themselves, where the heats or the colds, and changes of seasons, are less treatable than they are with us.'

It has been justly observed, that no country in the world can equal the cultivated parts of England for the great number of beautiful scenes with which it is adorned. The variety of high-lands and low-lands, the former gently swelling, and both of them forming prospects equal to the most luxuriant imagination, the corn and meadow ground, the intermixtures of inclosures and plantations, the noble seats, comfortable houses, chearful villages, and well-stocked farms, often rising in the neighbourhood of populous towns and cities, decorated with the most vivid colours of nature, afford an inexpressible pleasure.

Before we proceed to treat of the more distant parts of the kingdom, we shall give some account of the palaces, most elegant



The Garden Front of the Royal Palace at Kew.

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gant country seats, and other curiosities, within the distance of about twenty miles round London. And we shall begin with KEW, as that place is at present honoured with being the residence of his Majesty.

The Palace at Kew is a neat, plain building; but by no means suitable to the dignity of a King of Great Britain. The principal court of the palace is in the middle; the stable court on the left hand; and the kitchen courts on the right. As you enter the house from the principal court, a vestibule leads to the great hall, which occupies two stories in height, and receives its light from windows in the upper story. It is furnished with full-length portraits, representing King William III. Queen Mary, the present King of Prussia, the late Emperor of Germany, the present hereditary Prince of Brunswick, the late Elector of Cologne, and that famous Statesman Lord Treasurer Burleigh. Besides which, there is a very good hunting piece by Mr. Wootton, wherein are represented the late Frederick Prince of Wales, Lord Baltimore, Lord Cholmondeley, Lord Boston, Colonel Pelham, and several of his Royal Highness's attendants. In this room are likewise two large vases of statuary marble, on which are cut in basso relievo the four seasons of the year.

From the hall a passage leads to the garden, and on the right hand of this passage is their majesties apartment, consisting of an anti-chamber, a drawing-room, a cabinet, and a gallery, with waiting rooms, and other conveniences for the attendants. The anti-chamber is hung with tapestry, and over the doors are two portraits, the one of the late Lord Cobham, the other of the present Earl of Chesterfield.

The drawing room is likewise hung with tapestry. Over the doors are the portraits of King George I. and the late Prince of Wales, father to his present majesty. There is also another picture in the room with three heads, being the portraits of the late Princess of Orange, and the Princesses Amelia and Caroline.

The cabinet is finished with pannels of Japan; the cieling is gilt; which, together with the chimney piece, was designed by the late ingenious Mr. Kent. The gallery, with all its furniture, is entirely executed from designs of the same artist. The colour of the wainscoting is blue, and the ornaments are gilt. Over the chimney is a portrait of the late Princess of Orange, in a riding-dress; and on each side of it is a very fine picture by the celebrated Mr. Wootton; the

one

one representing a stag at bay; and the other a return from the chace. The scene of both is Windsor forest, and the persons represented are the late Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Marlborough, Mr. Spencer, the Duke of Chandois, the Marquis of Powis, Lord Jersey, and several other noblemen, gentlemen, and attendants.

On the left of the passage which leads to the garden, are the apartments of the bed-chamber-women. In their drawing-room is a very large collection of Portraits of illustrious Persons of both sexes; none of them very finely painted, yet curious and very entertaining. The cieling is executed from a design of Mr. Kent's; as are likewise the cieling, chimney piece, and all other parts of their dining room.

The cieling of the great-staircase was also designed by Mr. Kent. The principal floor is distributed into one state-apartment for their majesties, and into lodging rooms for their children and attendants. The state-apartment consists of a gallery, a drawing room, a dressing room, an anti-chamber, a bed-room, and closets.

The walls of the gallery are adorned with grotesque paintings, and children in theatrical dresses, by the late Mr. John Ellis. The chimney piece, and all the furniture, are from designs of Mr. Kent; and on the piers between the windows are four large painted looking glasses from China.

The cieling of the drawing room was designed and painted by Mr. Kent, with grotesque ornaments, in party colours and gold. The center compartment represents the story of Leda. The room is hung with green silk, and furnished with a very pretty collection of pictures, by Domenichino, Paul Veronese, Albano, Claude Lorrain, Cornelius Jansen, &c.

The Dressing Room is richly furnished with Japan cabinets, and a great variety of curious works in Dresden porcelain, amber, ivory, &c. and there are also in it two large pictures, the one by Dupan, representing the children of the royal family at play; and the other, the late Princess Dowager of Wales, with his present majesty, the late Duke of York, and the Princess of Brunswick, all in their infancy, attended by Lord Boston, Lady Archibald Hamilton, and Mrs. Herbert.

Their majesties bed-chamber is hung with tapestry; the cieling and chimney-piece were designed by Mr. Kent. The anti-chamber and closets contain nothing remarkable, excepting an hygrometer of a very curious construction, invented and executed by the ingenious Mr. Pulein, one of the chaplains to the late Princess Dowager.

The

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The GARDENS OF KEW are not very advantageously circumstanced with respect to their situation, as it is low, and commands no prospect. Originally the ground was one continued dead flat; the soil was in general barren, and without either wood or water. With so many disadvantages, it was not easy to produce any thing even tolerable in gardening. But with great expence and labour, all difficulties were at length overcome; and what was once a desert, is now a kind of Eden. And the judgment with which art hath been employed to supply the defects of nature, and to cover its deformities, hath excited general admiration.

On entering the garden from the palace, and turning towards the left hand, the first building which appears is *the Orangery, or Green House*; which was designed by Mr. Chambers, (now Sir William Chambers) and built under his inspection in the year 1761. The front extends one hundred and forty-five feet; the room is one hundred and forty-two feet long, thirty-six wide, and twenty-five high. In the back shed are two furnaces to heat flues, laid under the pavement of the orangery, which are found very useful, and indeed very necessary, in times of hard frost.

What is called *the Temple of the Sun*, is situated in an open grove near the orangery, and in the way to the physic garden. Its figure is of the circular peripteros kind, but without an attic; and there is a particularity in the entablature, of which the hint is taken from one of the temples of Balbec. The order is Corinthian, the columns fluted, and the entablature fully enriched. Over each column on the frieze are basso relievos, representing lyres and sprigs of laurel; and round the upper part of the cell are suspended festoons of fruits and flowers. The inside of the cell forms a saloon richly furnished and gilt. In the center of its cove is represented the sun, and on the frieze, in twelve compartments, surrounded with branches of laurel, are represented the signs of the zodiac in basso relievo. This building was also erected by Sir William Chambers.

The *Physic or Exotic Garden* contains a prodigious variety of curious plants, collected with great diligence and judgment by Dr. Hill; whose abilities as a Botanist are well known. Several stoves have been built for the cultivation of these plants; and, amongst others, one very large one, its extent from east to west being one hundred and fourteen feet.

Contiguous to the exotic garden is *the Flower Garden*; of which the principal entrance, with a stand on each side of it for rare flowers, forms one end. The two sides are enclosed with

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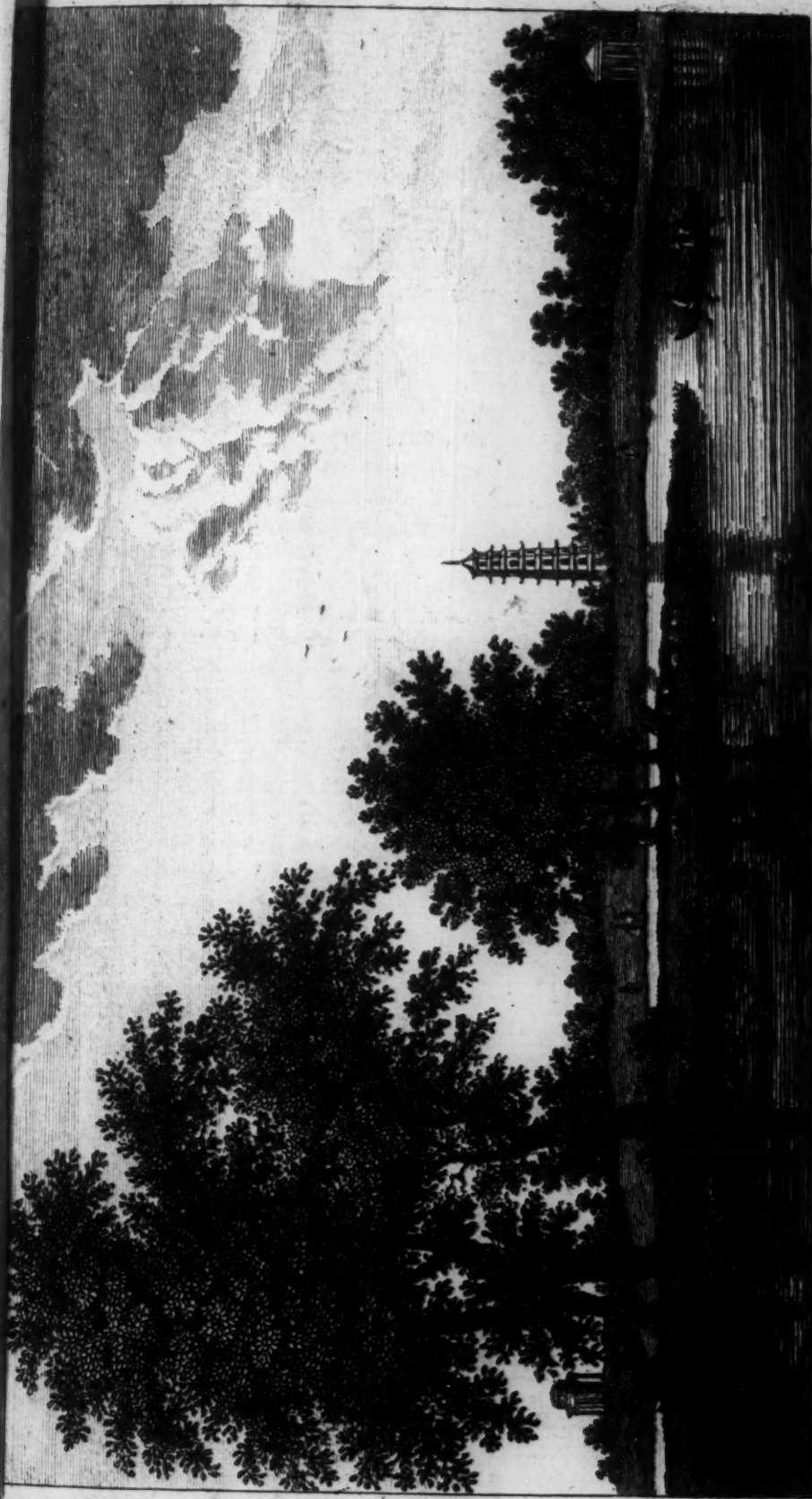
with high trees, and the end facing the principal entrance is occupied by an aviary of a vast depth, in which is kept a numerous collection of birds both foreign and domestic. The parterre is divided by walks into a great number of beds, in which all kinds of beautiful flowers are to be seen, during the greatest part of the year; and in its center is a basin of water stocked with gold fish.

From the flower-garden a short winding-walk leads to the *Menagerie*. It is of an oval figure; the center is occupied by a large basin of water, surrounded by a walk; and the whole is enclosed by a range of pens, or large cages, in which are kept great numbers of Chinese and Tartarian pheasants, besides many sorts of other large exotic birds. The basin is stocked with such water-fowl as are too tender to live on the lake; and in the middle of it stands a pavilion of an irregular octagon plan, designed by Sir William Chambers, in imitation of a Chinese open Ting, and built in the year 1760.

Near the *Menagerie* stands the *Temple of Bellona*, which was also erected by Sir William Chambers. And passing from the *Menagerie* towards the lake, in a retired solitary walk on the left, is the *Temple of the God Pan*, which is of the monopteros kind, but closed on the side towards the thicket, in order to make it serve for a seat. It is of the Doric order; the profile imitated from that of the theatre of Marcellus at Rome. Not far from hence, on an eminence, stands the *Temple of Eolus*. The order is composite, in which the Doric is predominant. Within the columns is a large semicircular nich, serving as a seat, which revolves on a pivot, and may with great ease be turned by one hand to any exposition, notwithstanding its size. The *Temple of Solitude* is situated very near the south front of the palace.

At the head of the lake, and near the temple of Eolus, stands a Chinese octagon building of two stories, built many years ago; and which is commonly called the *House of Confucius*. The lower story consists of one room and two closets, and the upper story is one little saloon, commanding a very pleasant prospect over the lake and gardens. Its walls and ceiling are painted with grotesque ornaments, and little historical subjects relating to Confucius, with several transactions of the Christian missions in China. In a thicket near the house of Confucius, is erected the engine which supplies the lake and basins in the gardens with water. It was contrived by Mr. Smeaton, and executed under his direction in the year 1761.

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*A View of the Lake & Island seen from the Lann with a distant prospect of the Temples of Arethusa
and Victory, & the great Pagoda in the Royal Gardens at New.*

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It answers perfectly well, raising, by means of two horses, upwards of 3600 horseheads of water in twelve hours.

From the House of Confucius a covered close walk leads to a grove, where is placed a semi-octagon seat. A winding walk, on the right hand of the grove, leads to an open plain, on one side of which, backed with thickets, on a rising ground, is placed a Corinthian colonnade, designed and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1760, and called the *Theatre of Augusta*.

The next building which offers itself to view is the *Temple of Victory*. It stands on a hill, and was built in commemoration of the signal victory obtained, on the 1st of August, 1759, at Minden, by the allied army, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, over the French army, commanded by the Marshal de Contades. The cell, which commands a pretty prospect towards Richmond, and likewise over Middlesex, is neatly finished with stucco ornaments. Those in the cieling represent standards, and other French trophies.

The upper part of the garden composes a large wilderness, on the border of which stands a Moresque Building, commonly called *The Alhambra*. This consists of a saloon, fronted with a portico of coupled columns, and crowned with a lanthorn.

On an open space, near the center of the same wilderness, is erected the Tower commonly called *The Great Pagoda*. This was begun under Sir William Chambers's direction, in the autumn of the year 1761, and covered in the spring of the year 1762. The design is an imitation of the Eastern temples, and particularly of the Chinese *Taa*. The base is a regular octagon, forty-nine feet in diameter; and the superstructure is likewise a regular octagon in its plan, and its elevation composed of ten prisms, which form the ten different stories of the building. The lowest of these is twenty-six feet in diameter, exclusive of the portico which surrounds it, and eighteen feet high; the second is twenty-five feet in diameter, and seventeen feet high; and all the rest diminish in diameter and height, in the same arithmetical proportion, to the ninth story, which is eighteen feet in diameter, and ten feet high. The tenth story is seventeen feet in diameter, and, with the covering, twenty feet high; and the finishing on the top is seventeen feet high: so that the whole structure, from the base to the top of the fleuron, is one hundred and sixty-three feet. Each story finishes with a projecting roof, after the Chinese manner, covered with plates of varnished iron of different colours; and round each

of them there is a gallery enclosed with a rail. All the angles of the roof are adorned with large dragons, being eighty in number, covered with a kind of thin glass of various colours, which produces a most dazzling reflexion; and the whole ornament at the top is double gilt. The walls of the building are composed of very hard bricks; the outside of well-coloured and well-matched grey-stocks, neatly laid, and with such care, that there is not the least crack or fracture in the whole structure, notwithstanding its great height, and the expedition with which it was built. The stair-case, which leads to the different stories, is in the center of the building.

Notwithstanding the ground on which this structure is erected lies low, we have, on a clear day, a very fine prospect from the top of this elegant building; whence we may see northward, the hills of Harrow, Hampstead, and Highgate, southward to Banstead-downs and Epsom, taking in all that fine prospect of the county of Surrey, including Esher, Epsom-course, Wimbledon, Richmond-park, Putney heath, with the whole county away to Carshalton and Croydon, &c. Eastward we have a fine view of the river up to London, with the beautiful seats and pleasant villages on each side, as far as Blackheath and Shooter's-hill, which bound the prospect on this side. In the same manner the Thames affords a fine prospect westward, of Hampton-court, and all the delightful country-seats and villages along the river to Maidenhead-bridge, Windsor, &c. &c. In short, there is not, perhaps, another place in the world, from which so beautiful, populous, and well-cultivated a spot can be seen, as from the top of the Pagoda in Kew-gardens.

Near the great Pagoda, on a rising ground, backed with thickets, stands *The Mosque*; which was designed and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1761. The body of the building consists of an octagon saloon in the center, flanked with two cabinets, finishing with one large dome, and two small ones. The large dome is crowned with a crescent, and its upright part contains twenty-eight little arches, which give light to the saloon. On the three front sides of the central octagon are three doors, giving entrance to the building; over each of which there is an Arabic inscription, which may be thus translated:

“ Let there be no force in religion.”

“ There is but one God.”

“ Do not make any image or representation of the Deity.”

The minarets are placed at each end of the principal building.

ing. In the design of them, as well as in the whole exterior decoration of the building itself, Sir William Chambers has endeavoured to collect the principal particularities of the Turkish architecture. With regard to the interior decoration, he has not so scrupulously adhered to their style in building, but has aimed at something uncommon, and at the same time pleasing. At the eight angles of the room are palm-trees modelled in stucco, painted and varnished with various hues of green, in imitation of nature; which at the top spread, and support the dome, represented as formed of reeds, bound together with ribbons of silk. The cove is supposed to be perforated, and a brilliant sunny sky appears, finely painted by Mr. Wilson of Covent-garden, the celebrated landscape painter.

In the way from the Mosque towards the palace, there is a Gothic building, designed by Mr. Muntz, the front representing a cathedral. The *Gallery of Antiques* was designed by Chambers, and executed in the year 1757. Continuing your way from the last-mentioned building towards the palace, near the banks of the lake, stands the *Temple of Arethusa*, a small Ionic building of four columns. Near it there is a bridge thrown over a narrow channel of water, and leading to the island in the lake. The design is, in a great measure, taken from one of Palladio's wooden bridges. It was erected in one night.

In various parts of the garden are erected covered seats; and besides the other buildings that have been mentioned, there is also the *Temple of Peace*. This was erected in commemoration of the late peace, which was as much applauded by the partizans of the court, as it was execrated by the bulk of the nation. The portico is Hexastyle Ionic; the columns fluted; the entablature enriched, and the tympan of the pediment adorned with basso relievos. The cell is in the form of a Latin cross, the ends of which are closed with semicircular sweeps, wherein are niches for statues. It is richly finished with stucco ornaments, allusive to the occasion on which it was erected. But in truth this edifice had better have been omitted, as it is not very well adapted to excite any pleasing sensations; but is rather calculated to fill the breast of every Englishman who views it with disgust and indignation. The unparalleled series of victories and successes which attended the British arms during the last war, afforded the most glorious opportunity that ever was offered, of humbling the House of Bourbon, and concluding such a treaty of peace as would have been an immortal honour to this nation. But in order to promote some

private views of those in power, an ill-judged and inadequate peace was precipitated, to the great joy of our enemies, and to the extreme regret of every Englishman who had a sincere regard for the honour and interest of his native country. However, an edifice has been erected at Kew to commemorate this treaty of peace, though, from the circumstances under which it was concluded, it will for ever reflect disgrace on every British minister who was concerned in its negotiation.

The *Ruin* at Kew was designed and built by Sir William Chambers in the year 1759, in order to make a passage for carriages and cattle over one of the principal walks of the garden. His intention was to imitate a Roman antiquity, built of brick, with an incrustation of stone. The design is a triumphal arch, originally with three apertures, but two of them now closed up, and converted into rooms, to which you enter by doors made in the sides of the principal arch. Both the fronts of the structure are rustic. The north front is confined between rocks, overgrown with briars and other wild plants, and topped with thickets, amongst which are seen several columns, and other fragments of buildings; and at a little distance beyond the arch is seen an antique statue of a muse. The central structure of the ruin is bounded on each side by a range of arches. There is a great quantity of cornices, and other fragments, spread over the ground, seemingly fallen from the buildings; and in the thickets on each side are seen several remains of piers, brick-walls, and other ruins.

The gardens of Kew undoubtedly are, upon the whole, extremely pleasing; but it has been thought, and not without reason, that with regard to the ornaments and buildings therein, a fondness for Turkish and Chinese chequer-work has too much prevailed, in preference to the more beautiful models of Grecian and Roman architecture.

The village of *Kew* is situated on the banks of the Thames, in the county of Surrey, opposite to Old Brentford. Here is a chapel of ease, erected at the expence of several of the nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood, on a piece of ground that was given for that purpose by Queen Anne. In 1758, an act of parliament was passed for building a bridge across the Thames, opposite to Kew-green; and a bridge was accordingly erected consisting of eleven arches. The two piers, and their dependent arches on each side next the shore, are built of brick and stone; but the intermediate arches, which are seven in number, are entirely wood. The center arch is fifty feet wide, and the road over the bridge is thirty feet wide.

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wide. Several gentlemen have elegant country-houses on Kew Green.

R I C H M O N D.

At a little distance from Kew, and about twelve miles from London, is the village of *Richmond*, which is esteemed the finest village in the British dominions. It was anciently the seat of our monarchs, and the palace from its splendor was called *Shene*, which in the Saxon tongue signifies bright or shining. Here died King Edward III. so much celebrated in the English annals; and here also died Queen Anne, the wife of Richard II. who first taught the English women the use of the side-saddle; for before her time they used to ride astride. Richard was so afflicted at her death, that it gave him such a dislike to the place where it happened, that he defaced the fine palace. But it was repaired and beautified afresh by King Henry V. who, had he lived, intended to have made it his summer residence; but during the long wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, it was greatly neglected, and at last consumed by fire in the year 1497. It did not, however, remain long in ruins; for Henry VII. caused it to be rebuilt according to the best rules of architecture in that age, and commanded that the name of the village should be changed from *Shene* to *Richmond*; he having borne the title of Earl of Richmond, before he obtained the crown by the defeat and death of Richard III. Henry VII. died here; and here also his grand-daughter Queen Elizabeth breathed her last.

The late palace, which was finely situated, was a very plain edifice built by the Duke of Ormond, who received a grant of a considerable space of land about Richmond, from King William III. as a reward for his military services; but it devolved to the crown on that nobleman's attainder, in the beginning of the reign of King George I. His late Majesty took great delight here, and made several improvements in the palace, while Queen Caroline amused herself at her Royal dairy-house, Merlin's cave, the Hermitage, and the other improvements which she made in the park and gardens of this pleasing retreat. And the present King has chiefly resided here, during the summer season, almost ever since his accession to the throne: but since the death of the late Princess Dowager of Wales, he has removed to Kew. And the palace here has just been pulled down, and a new one is begun to be erected.

As

As to the gardens at Richmond, they are extremely fine without offering a violence to nature; and Pope's advice with respect to planting, has been considered as a very accurate description of the beauties to be found here.

- " To build, to plant, whatever you intend,
- " To rear the column, or the arch to bend;
- " To swell the terrace, or to sink the grot,
- " In all let nature never be forgot.
- " Consult the genius of the place in all,
- " That tells the waters or to rise or fall;
- " Or helps th' ambitious hill the heavens to scale,
- " Or scoops in circling theatres the vale;
- " Calls in the country, catches op'ning glades,
- " Joins willing woods, and varies shades from shades;
- " Now breaks, or now directs th' intending lines;
- " Paints as you plant, and as you work, designs."

In short, almost every thing in Richmond gardens has an agreeable wildness, and a pleasing irregularity, that cannot fail to charm all who are in love with nature, and afford a much higher and more lasting satisfaction, than the stiff decorations of art, where the artist loses sight of nature, which alone ought to direct his hand.

On entering these rural walks, you are conducted to the Dairy, a neat but low brick building, to which there is an ascent by a flight of steps; in the front is a handsome angular pediment, which has a fine effect on the eye of the spectator. The walls on the inside are covered with stucco, and the house is furnished suitably to a royal dairy, all the vessels for holding the milk being of the finest china, and the most beautiful patterns.

On a mount near one side of the Dairy, is a temple, on the top of which is a circular dome and ball, being supported by pillars of the Tuscan order. Near the river is a wood, through which there is a walk to an elegant structure, called the Queen's Pavilion, and near it is a small summer house. The great summer-house is situated near the borders of the wood, and is a fine light airy building, having lofty windows, from which there is a most delightful prospect over the river to Sion-house, the seat of the Duke of Northumberland. In this edifice are two good pictures, representing the taking of Vigo by the Duke of Ormond.

Merlin's Cave, a gothic building, covered with thatch, is near a pond at the end of a labyrinth; and in it is a library,
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consisting of a well-chosen collection of the works of modern authors, neatly bound in vellum. Merlin is represented like one of the antient British bards, and queen Elizabeth in the dress mentioned by antient authors to have been worn by the Amazons: both these are waxen figures.

On leaving this edifice, which has an antique and venerable appearance, you come to a large oval of about 500 feet in diameter, called the Forest oval; and turning from hence you have a view of the *Hermitage*, a grotesque building, which seems as if it had stood many hundred years; though it was only built by order of the late Queen Caroline. It has three arched doors, and the middle part which projects forward, is adorned with a kind of ruinous angular pediment; the stones of the whole edifice appear as if rudely laid together, and the venerable look of the whole is improved by the thickness of the solemn grove behind, and the little turret on the top with a bell, to which you may ascend by a winding walk. The inside is in the form of an octagon with niches, in which are the busts of five celebrated men, who have been justly numbered among the greatest ornaments of this country; namely, Sir Isaac Newton, Mr. Locke, Mr. Woolaston, Dr. Samuel Clarke, and Mr. Robert Boyle.

Leaving this seat of contemplation, you pass through fields clothed with grass, and also through corn fields, and a wild ground interspersed with broom and furze, which afford excellent shelter for hares and pheasants; of which last there are here great numbers very tame. From this pleasing variety, in which nature appears in all her forms of cultivation, and of barren wildness, you come to an amphitheatre formed by young elms, and a diagonal wilderness, through which you pass to the forest walk, which extends about half a mile, and then passing through a small wilderness, you leave the gardens; to the west of which are seen the fine houses of several of the Nobility and Gentry. We shall conclude our remarks relative to the gardens with observing, that the grand terras, which overlooks the river, is admired by all foreigners.

Richmond Green is extremely pleasant, it being levelled and enclosed in a handsome manner. It is also surrounded with lofty elms, and adorned on each side with the houses of persons of distinction. A sun-dial is here affixed in a pretty taste, encompassed with seats: this, and the railing in of the green, were at the sole expence of the late Queen Caroline.

The village of Richmond, (or town, as it is frequently called)

called) extends a full mile up the hill from the Thames, skirted and mingled with gardens. It is now a flourishing place; and a theatre has been lately erected here, where, during the summer season, dramatic entertainments are performed on the stage, by some of the best actors from London: For many people of fashion reside here, and in the neighbourhood. Great numbers from London are also constantly visiting the gardens, some going in parties by water, and others in the stage, or their own carriages.

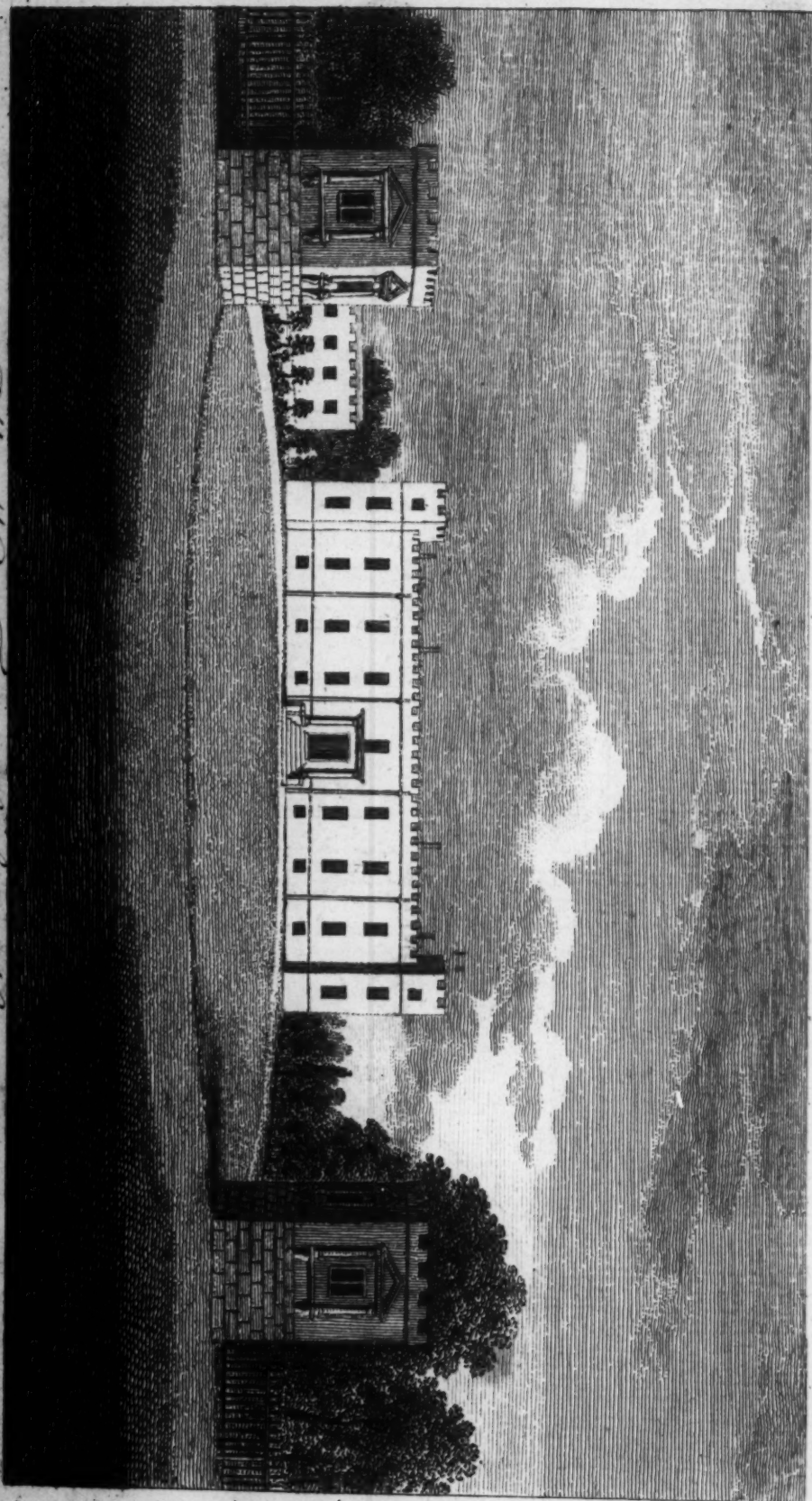
The summit of *Richmond Hill* affords a most enchanting prospect of towns, villages, bridges, woods, groves, gardens, fields, and an incredible number of delightful villas along the banks of the river Thames, which winds with a serpentine course through this delicious vale from Kingston to London. The tide, before the building of Westminster-bridge, used to rise as high as Richmond, but now falls short of it. It still, however, reaches sixty miles from the sea; which is a greater distance than the tide is carried by any other river in Europe.

There is here an alms-house, which was built by Dr. Duppa, bishop of Winchester, in the reign of King Charles II. for the support of ten poor widows, pursuant to a vow made by that prelate during that prince's exile. There is also another alms-house, endowed with above 100*l.* a year, which, since its foundation, has been considerably encreased by John Mitchell, Esq; Here are likewise two charity-schools, one for fifty boys, and the other for fifty girls.

Richmond Park, sometimes called the New Park in Surrey, is one of the best parks in England. It was made in the reign of King Charles I. and enclosed with a brick wall, said to be eleven miles in compass. In this park there is a little hill cast up, called King Henry's Mount, from which is a prospect of six counties, with a distant view of the city of London, and of Windsor-castle. The new lodge in this park, built by the late Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford, is a very elegant edifice. It is built of stone in a square form, with wings on each side of brick. It stands on a rising ground, and commands a very good prospect of the Park. This park is the largest of any within the environs of London, except that of Windsor, and the finest too; for though it has little more than a wild variety of natural beauties to shew, yet these are such as cannot fail to please those who are as much delighted with views in their rudest appearance, as in all the elegance of art and design.



A View from Richmond Hill, down the River.



The West Front of Lion House.

S I O N - H O U S E.

Directly opposite to the royal gardens at Richmond, though on the other side of the river, and in another county, stands *Sion-house*, one of the seats of the Duke of Northumberland. It is called Sion from a monastery of the same name, which was founded by Henry V. in 1414, very near the place where the house now stands, and which was endowed with 1000 marks a year, for the maintenance of sixty nuns, including the abbess, and twenty-five men. The present edifice was erected by the Duke of Somerset, Protector, and uncle to King Edward the Sixth; who began to build it about the year 1547; but many and great additions and improvements have been since made to it, and especially by the present Duke of Northumberland. Sion House is built on the very spot where the church belonging to the monastery formerly stood, and is a very large, venerable, and majestic structure, built of white stone, in the form of a hollow square; so that it has four external, and as many internal fronts; the latter of which surround a square court in the middle. The roof is flat, covered with lead, and surrounded with indented battlements, like the walls of a fortified city. Upon every one of the four outward angles of the roof, there is a square-turret, flat-roofed, and embattled like the other parts of the building. The house is three stories high, and the east front, which faces the Thames, is supported by arches, forming a fine piazza. The great hall was finished in the manner in which it at present appears by Inigo Jones; who was also employed to new-face the inner court, and to make some alterations in several of the apartments.

The gardens at Sion were at first laid out and finished in a very grand manner by the Protector Somerset; but being made at a time when extensive views were judged to be inconsistent with that solemn reserve and stately privacy affected by the great, they were so situated as to deprive the house of every beautiful prospect which the neighbourhood afforded: at least none of them could be seen from the lower apartments. To remedy this inconvenience, the present Duke of Northumberland caused a high triangular terrace, which the Protector had raised at a great expence, to be removed; the walls of the old gardens were also taken down, and the ground before the house levelled, and it now forms a fine lawn, extending from Isleworth to Brentford. By these means a beautiful prospect is not only opened into the royal gardens at Richmond, but also

up and down the river Thames. Towards the Thames the lawn is bounded by an ha-ha, and a meadow; which his grace ordered to be cut down into a gentle slope, so that the surface of the water may now be seen even from the lowest apartments and the gardens. In consequence of these improvements, the most beautiful piece of scenery imaginable is formed before two of the principal fronts, for even the Thames itself seems to belong to the gardens.

The house stands nearly in the middle point of that side of the lawn, which is the farthest from the Thames, and communicates with Isleworth and Brentford, either by means of the lawn, or a fine gravel walk, which in some places runs along the side, and in others through the middle of a beautiful shrubbery; so that even in the most retired parts of this charming maze, where the prospect is most confined, almost the whole vegetable world rises up as it were in miniature around you, and presents you with every foreign shrub, plant, and flower, which can be adopted by the soil of this climate.

The present Duke of Northumberland has not only thus improved the ground where the old gardens stood, but has also made a very large addition to it, and separated the two parts by making a new serpentine river. It communicates with the Thames, is well stored with all sorts of river fish, and can be emptied and filled by means of a sluice, which is so contrived as to admit the fish into the new river, but to prevent their returning back into the Thames. His grace has also built two bridges, which form a communication between the two gardens, and has erected in that, which lies near Brentford, a stately Doric column; upon the top of which is a fine proportioned statue of Flora, so judiciously placed as to command as it were a distinct view of the situation over which she is supposed to preside.

The Kitchen-gardens are very large, lie at a proper distance from the house, and contain every thing necessary or convenient, as a hot-house, fire-walls, &c. The green-house is a very neat building, with a Gothic front, designed by his grace in so light a style as to be greatly admired. The back and end walls of it are the only remains of the old monastery. This building stands near a circular basin of water, well stocked with gold and silver fish; and in the middle of the basin is a spouting fountain, which is well supplied, and plays without intermission.

Among the most remarkable particulars at Sion-house is the great gallery, which extends the whole length of the east-front

over

The Garden Front of the Earl of Harrington's Seat, at Petersham in Surrey.



over the arcades. There is also an immense quantity of old china vases, of different forms and sizes, crowded together in almost every apartment. And the Pedigree Picture here is one of the greatest curiosities of its kind in England, and exhibits the noble and royal connexions of the Percies; all which are now united in the present Dutchess of Northumberland. We may also remark, that many fine prospects may be seen from the leads on the top of the house; for they command a view of the country to the distance of twelve or fourteen miles, and consequently the greatest part of London may be seen from them. To these observations we may add, that the gardens, when viewed from the top of the house, form a finer landscape than can easily be conceived.

P E T E R S H A M.

This is a small village in Surrey, near the New Park, and a little to the south of Richmond-hill. Here stood a delightful seat built by the Earl of Rochester, lord high treasurer in the reign of King James II. But this fine house was burnt down in the year 1720, so suddenly that the family, who were all at home, had scarcely time to save their lives. By this accident, the curious collection of paintings, and the noble library, of the Earl of Clarendon, author of the History of the Civil War, were wholly consumed. But on the ground where this house stood, another was erected after one of the designs of the Earl of Burlington, for the Earl of Harrington, who now resides in it. The front next the court is very plain, and the entrance to the house not very extraordinary: but the south front next the garden, is bold and regular, and the apartments on that side, chiefly designed for state, are extremely elegant. The gardens were formerly crowded with plantations near the house; but they are now laid open in lawns of grass. The kitchen-garden, before situated on the east-side of the house, is removed out of sight, and the ground converted to an open slope of grass, leading up to a terrace of great length; from which is a prospect of the river Thames, the village of Twickenham, and of all the fine seats round that part of the country. On the other side of the terrace, is a plantation on a rising ground; and on the summit of the hill is a fine pleasure house, which on every side commands a prospect of the country for many miles.—Peter sham gives the title of viscount to the earl of Harrington.—It appears from ancient records to have been a place of great antiquity; and formerly it was possessed of great privileges; so that no person could

be arrested in it, and no officer was permitted to come through it with any person in his custody whom he had arrested elsewhere.—The Earl of Dysart has a handsome seat at *Ham*, near this place; which was formerly in the possession of the Duke of Lauderdale. It is close by the river, and King Charles II. used to be frequently at this pleasant seat, being much delighted with it.

T W I C K E N H A M.

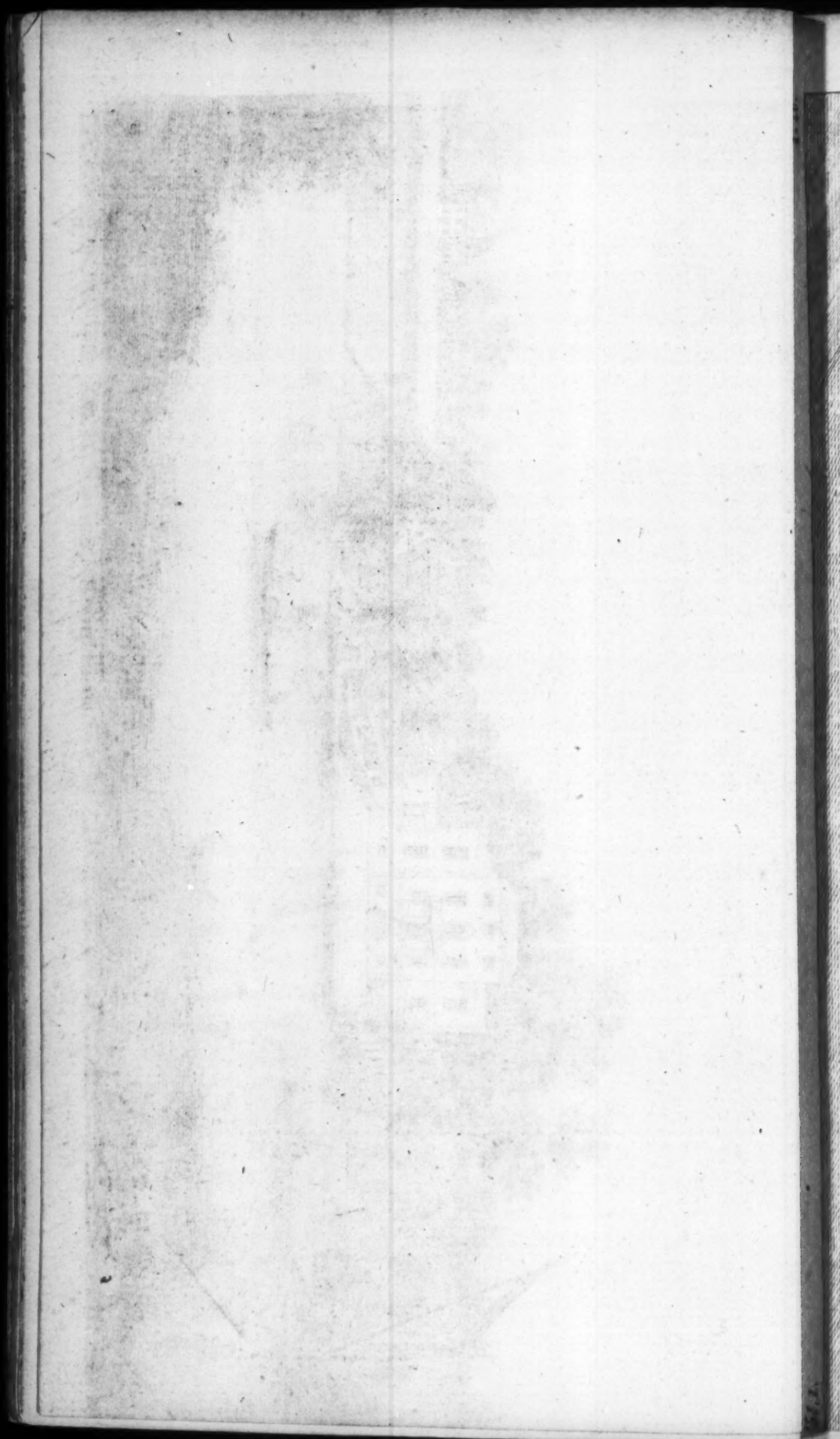
On the opposite side of the river, in the county of Middlesex, stands the pleasant village of *Twickenham*; which is particularly memorable for having been the residence of Mr. Pope. That celebrated poet purchased a house here in the year 1715, and took great delight in improving his house and gardens. And the improvements which he made were so elegant, that his seat became an object of general admiration, as well as its owner. The house and gardens have, however, been considerably enlarged since, by the late Sir William Stanhope, who purchased them after the death of Mr. Pope.

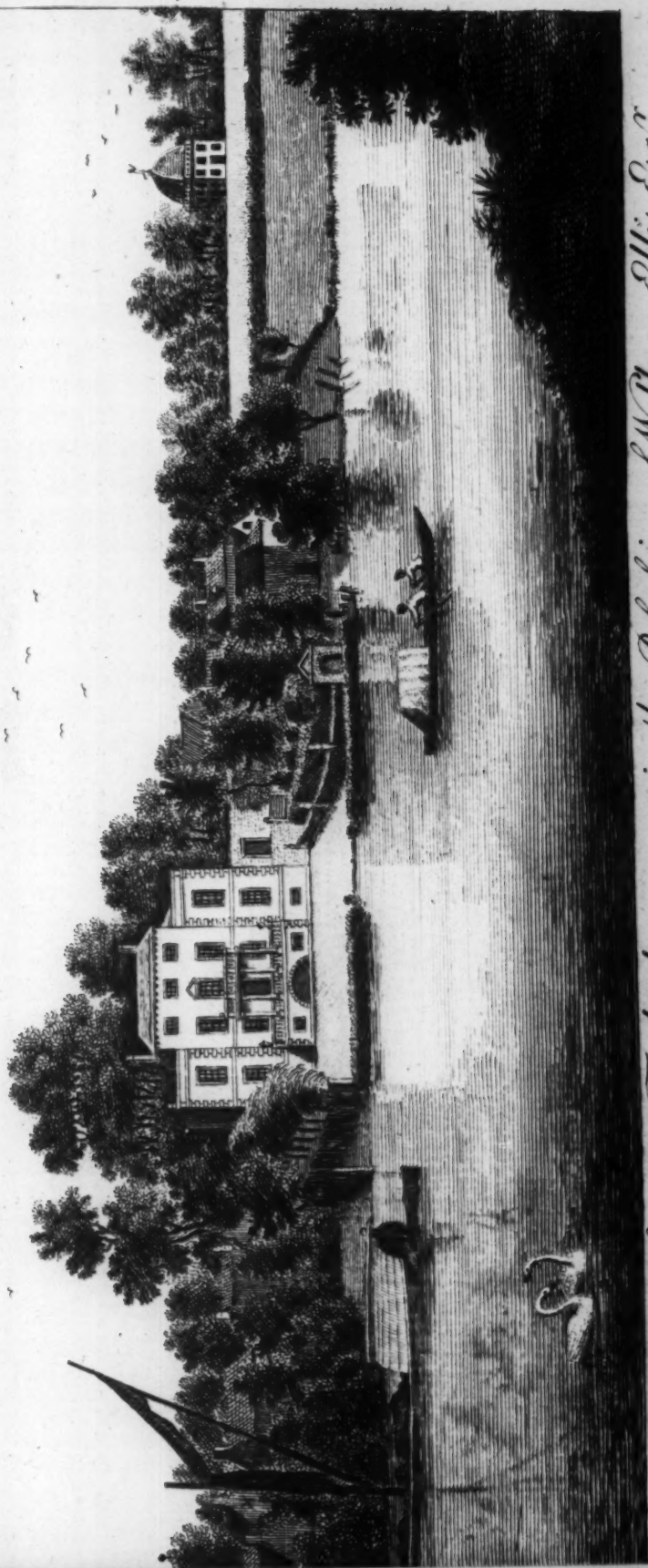
One of the chief ornaments of this agreeable retreat, was the grotto, the improvement of which was one of the favourite amusements of Mr. Pope's declining years; so that not long before his death, by enlarging and encreasing it with a vast number of ores and minerals of the richest and rarest kinds, he made it one of the most elegant and romantic retirements. Towards the beautifying of his gardens and grotto, Mr. Pope was assisted by presents of various kinds, from several of his friends, procured from the various quarters of the globe; and among others who made him presents for this purpose, was the late Frederic Prince of Wales; who often testified a great regard for men of genius and learning, though they did not prostitute their talents to gratify the court, and who always appeared to be a real friend to the liberties of the people.

Our readers will, we presume, not be displeased with the following description which Mr. Pope himself gave of this romantic retreat, in a letter to a friend, long before it received the last and principal improvement. "I have," says he, "put the last hand to my works of this kind, in happily finishing the subterranean way and grotto: I there found a spring of the clearest water, which falls in a perpetual rill, that echoes through the cavern day and night. From the river Thames, you see through my arch up a walk of the wide:ness, to a kind of open temple, wholly composed of shells

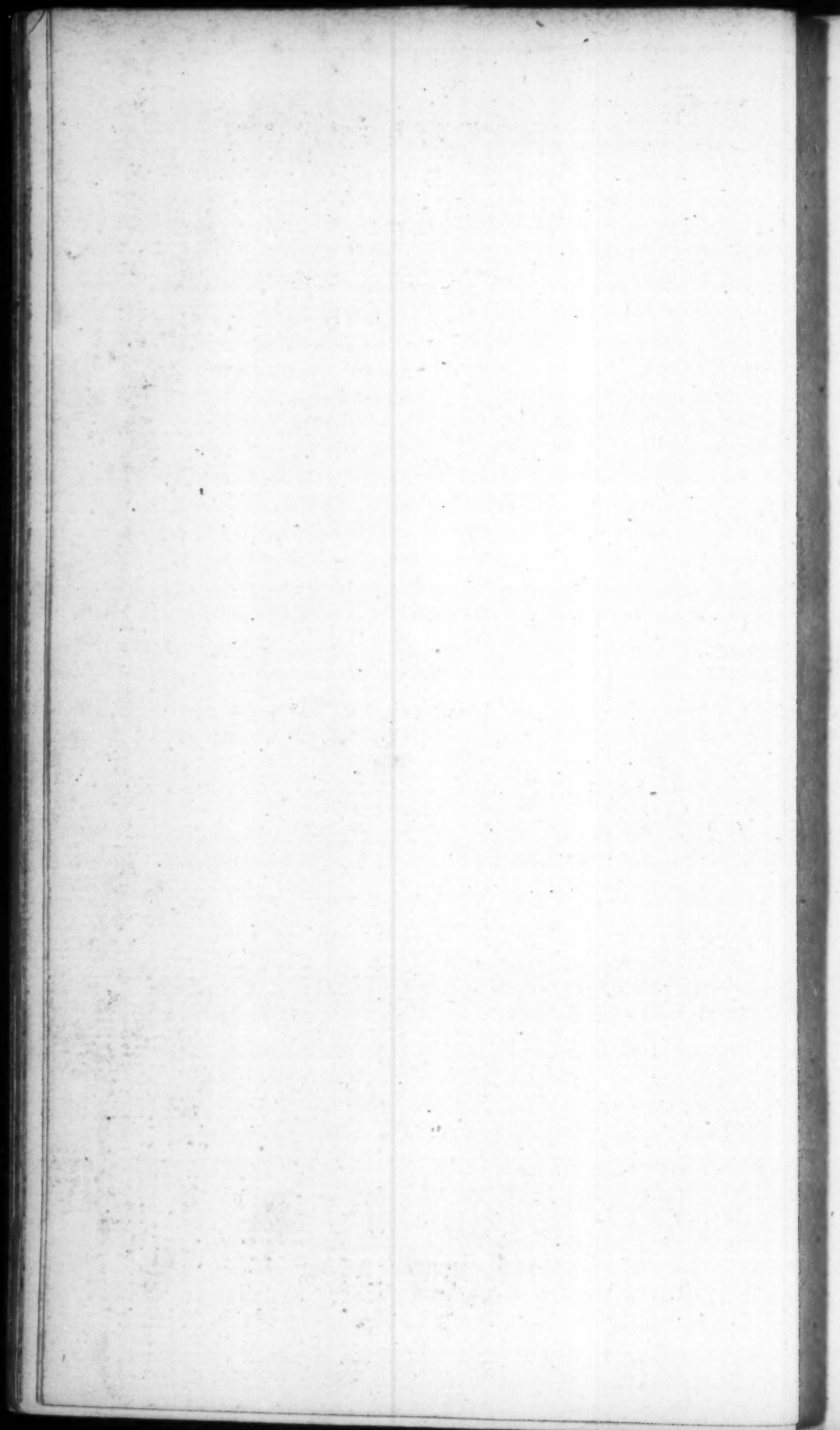


A View of Twickenham in the County of Middlesex.





Mr. Pope's House at Twickenham, now in the Possession of Welbore Ellis Esq.



THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 21

“ shells in the rustic manner ; and from that distance, under
 “ the temple, you look down through a sloping arcade of trees,
 “ and see the sails on the river passing suddenly and vanishing,
 “ as through a perspective glass. When you shut the doors
 “ of this grotto, it becomes on the instant, from a luminous
 “ room, a *camera obscura* ; on the walls of which all the ob-
 “ jects of the river, hills, woods, and boats, are forming a
 “ moving picture in their visible radiations. And when you
 “ have a mind to light it up, it affords you a very different
 “ scene ; it is finished with shells, interspersed with pieces of
 “ looking glass in regular forms ; and in the cieling is a star
 “ of the same material, at which, when a lamp (of an orbi-
 “ cular figure of thin alabaster) is hung in the middle, a thou-
 “ sand pointed rays glitter, and are reflected over the place.
 “ There are connected to this grotto, by a narrow passage,
 “ two porches, one towards the river, of smooth stones full
 “ of light, and open ; the other towards the garden shadowed
 “ with trees, rough with shells, flints, and iron-ore. The
 “ bottom is paved with simple pebble, as is also the adjoining
 “ walk up the wilderness to the temple, in the natural taste,
 “ agreeing not ill with the little dripping murmur, and the
 “ aquatic idea of the whole place. It wants nothing to com-
 “ plete it but a good statue with an inscription, like that beau-
 “ tiful antique one which you know I am so fond of :

“ *Hujus nympha loci, sacri custodia fontis,*

“ *Dormio, dum blandæ sentio murmur aquæ.*

“ *Parce meum, quisquis tangis cava marmora, somnum*

“ *Rumpere ; si bibas, fave lavare, tace.*”

“ Nymph of the grot, these sacred springs I keep,

“ And to the murmurs of these waters sleep ;

“ Ah, spare my slumbers, gently tread the cave !

“ And drink in silence, or in silence lave.”

“ You’ll think I have been very poetical in this description,
 “ but it is pretty near the truth.”

This letter was written in 1725. But afterwards, when
 it was in its more perfect state, Mr. Pope wrote the following
 short poem upon it,

“ Thou who shalt stop, where Thames’ translucent wave

“ Shines a broad mirror, thro’ the shadowy Cave ;

“ Where ling’ring drops from min’ral roofs distil,

“ And pointed chrystals break the sparkling rill,

“ Un-

- “ Unpolish'd gems no ray on pride bestow,
 “ And latent metals innocently glow :
 “ Approach. Great nature studiously behold !
 “ And eye the mine without a wish for gold.
 “ Approach : But awful ! Lo ! the *Ægerian* grott,
 “ Where, nobly-pensive, *St. John* fate and thought ;
 “ Where British sighs from dying *Wyndham* stole,
 “ And the bright flame was shot thro' *Marchmont's* soul.
 “ Let such, such only, tread this sacred floor,
 “ Who dare to love their country, and be poor.

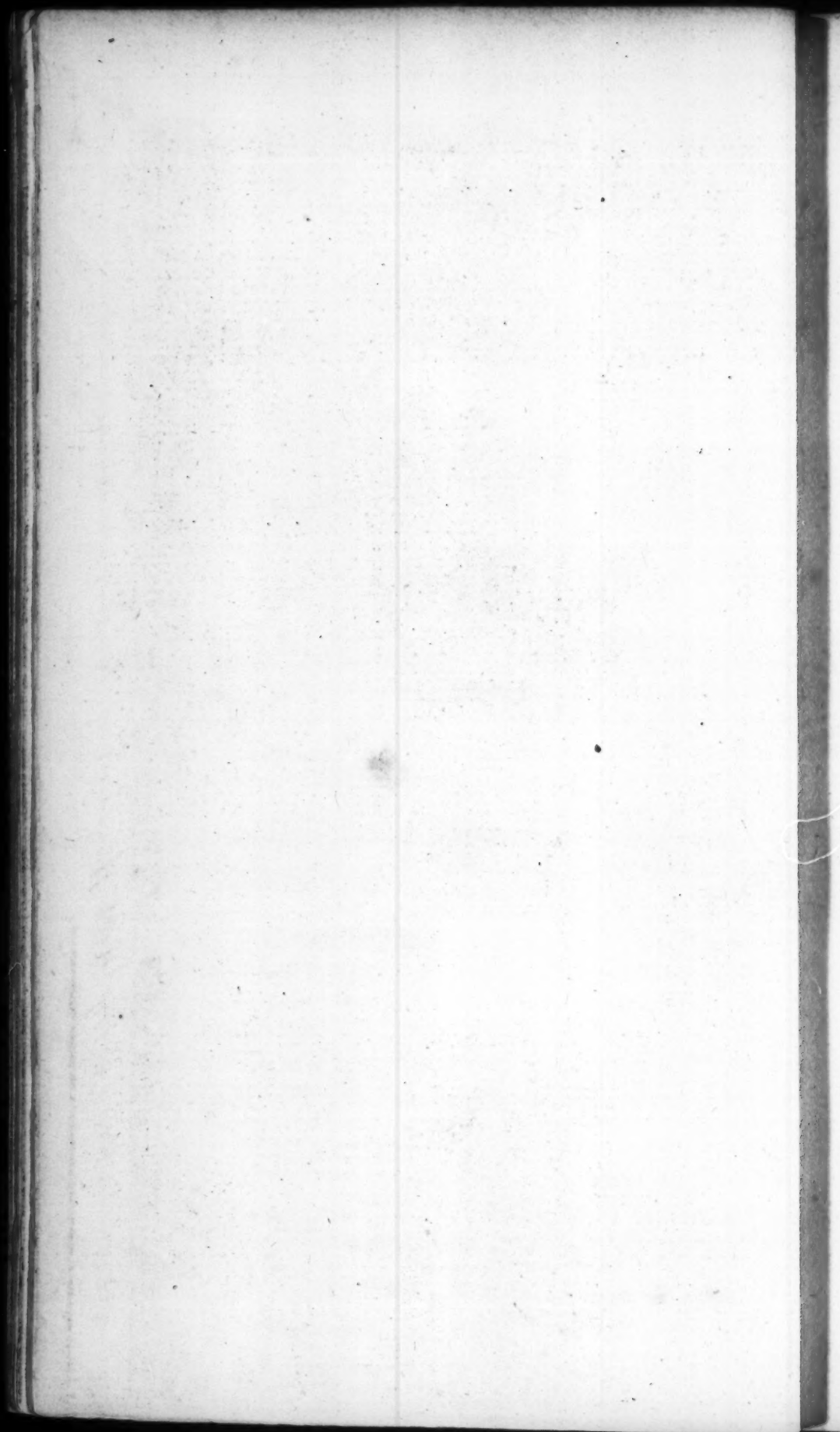
It has been justly observed, that Mr. Pope's modesty is very conspicuous in these admirable lines. He warns an awful approach to his grotto, on account of the reverence due to his *friends*, who sat and thought there ; without saying one word of himself. But what renders it truly venerable, is its having been the seat of his own study and meditation, which will afford instruction and entertainment to the latest posterity.—It may be here remarked, that Mr. Pope erected in his garden a small pyramid to the memory of his mother, which is still remaining.

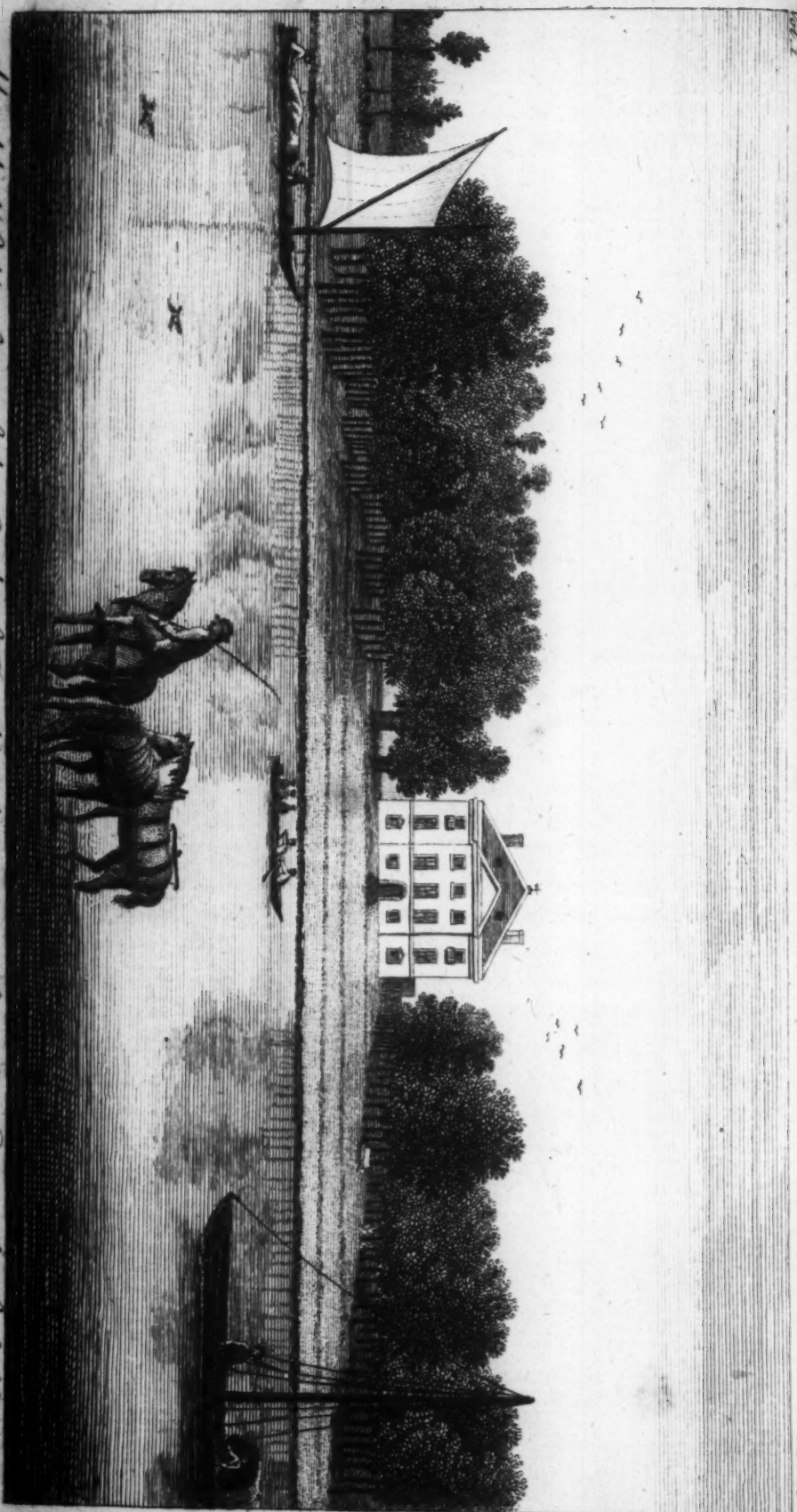
In this pleasing retreat Mr. Pope (to borrow the words of lord Orrery) “ treated his friends with a politeness that “ charmed, and a generosity that was much to his honour. “ Every guest was made happy within his doors. Pleasure dwelt “ under his roof, and elegance presided at his table.”—This fine seat is now in the possession of Welbore Ellis, Esq; who married the daughter of the late Sir William Stanhope.

The ingenious Mr. Horace Walpole, well known in the republic of letters for his several elegant publications in polite literature, has also a delightful seat near Twickenham, known by the name of *STRAWBERRY HILL*. This romantic edifice, which is built in an agreeable retirement, appears to the eye like the shattered outside of an ancient priory. The entrance is by a cloister which is low, narrow, obscure, and humid ; upon the walls are to be seen epitaphs, and a variety of funeral inscriptions brought from Italy. The manner in which the house is laid out answers to its entry. A refectory, chapter, dormitory, chapel ; in short, all are the same as in a religious house : and from the manner in which it is constructed, from the furniture, the glasses, the paintings, and the ornaments, one would take it to be a monastery of the thirteenth century. The library unites all the embellishments which architects have endeavoured to give to this kind of building : the roof divided into



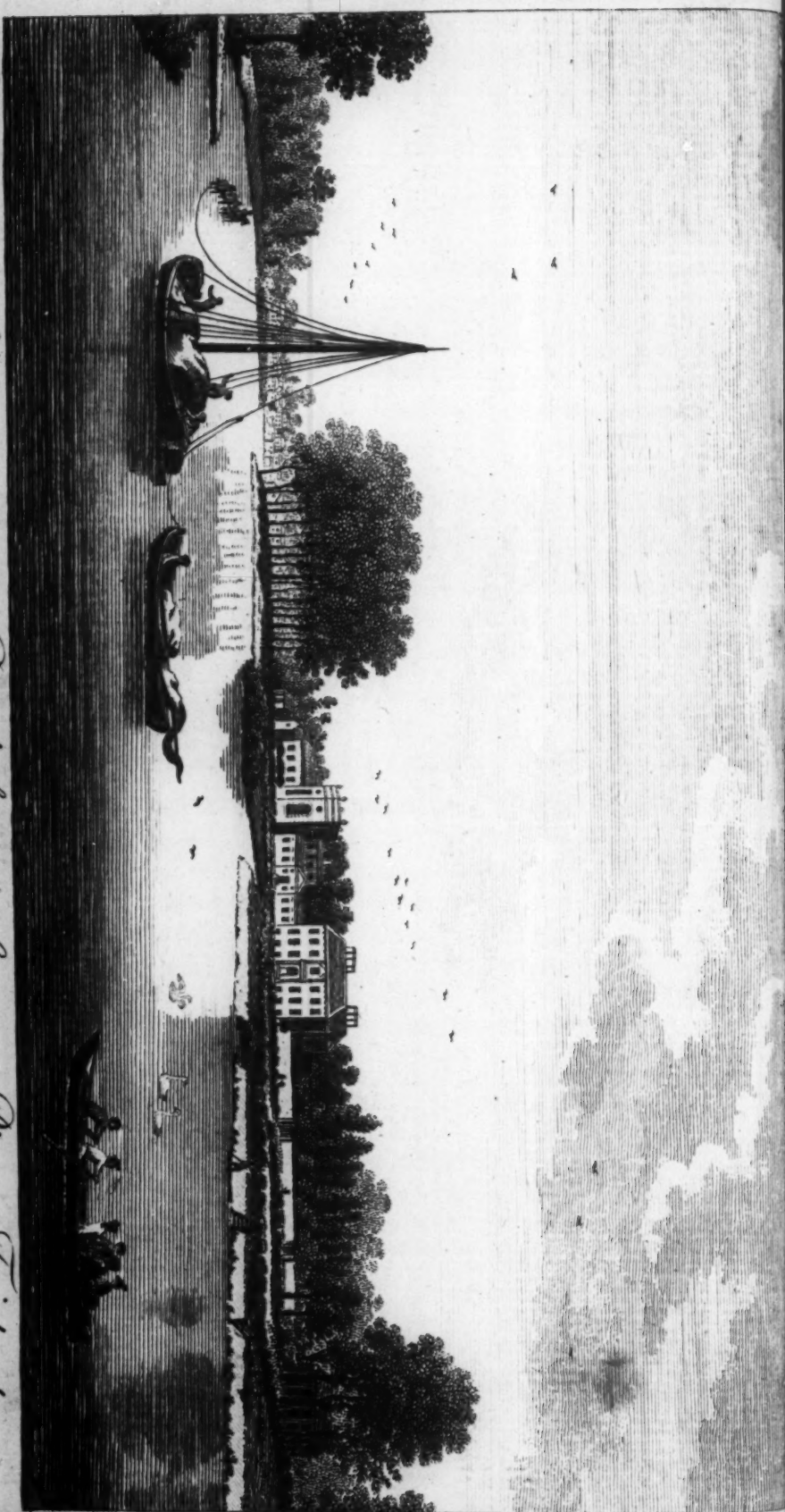
Strawberry Hill, the Seat of Mr. Horace Walpole.





Marble Hall, Seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, late the Countess of Suffolk.

The Seat of the late J.^r George Pococke, formerly Governor Pitts at Truickenhurst.



into ogees is loaded with that species of wreathed shells, which the Gothic architecture seems to have borrowed from the stalactites, suspended in those grottoes that held so distinguished a place in natural history. The books are contained in several presses, the pannels of which, made after the manner of glass casements of churches, are of the most precious sort of wood, and of the finest workmanship, upon the most antique models. The seats, the tables, and desks, discover the same regularity and taste. The windows are of old painted glass. It has been justly observed, that great delicacy and precision were necessary to give taste to those fantastic forms, so widely deviating from the present fashions.

The Earl of Buckinghamshire has also a fine seat at Twickenham, called *Marble Hall*, which was some years ago in the possession of the Countess of Suffolk. There are likewise several other fine seats here, particularly that of Sir George Pococke, which formerly belonged to Governor Pitt.

The church at Twickenham is a modern edifice, rebuilt by the contributions of the inhabitants, and is a handsome Doric structure. Mr. Pope's father and mother, as well as himself, were buried here in the same vault; to whose memory he erected a monument, with the following inscription, written by himself.

D. O. M.

Alexander Pope, viro innocuo, probò, pio;

Qui vixit an. 75. ob. 1717.

Et Edithæ conjugii inculpabili, pientissimæ;

Qui vixit annos 93. ob. 1733.

Parentibus bene merentibus

Filius fecit.

Et sibi. Obiit an. 1744. ætatis 56.

The last line was added after Mr. Pope's own death, in pursuance of his will; but the rest was done on the death of his parents. However, Dr. Warburton, the present Bishop of Gloucester, has since erected a very handsome monument in Twickenham church to the memory of this justly celebrated Poet, whereon is his head in a kind of medallion, and underneath the following inscription.

ALEXANDRO POPE,

H. M.

Gulielmus Episcopus Glocestriensis

Amicitia causa fac. cur.

MDCCLXI.

And

A NEW DISPLAY OF

And a little lower are the following lines :

POETA LOQUITUR.

For one who would not be buried in Westminster-
Abbey.

Heroes and Kings your distance keep,
In peace let one poor Poet sleep :
Who never flatter'd folks like you,
Let Horace blush and Virgil too.

On the outside of Twickenham church, there is also a
stone erected by Mr. Pope himself, whereon is the following
inscription :

To the Memory of

MARY BEACH,

Who died Nov. 5, 1725, aged 78.

ALEX. POPE, whom she nursed in his infancy,

And constantly attended for thirty-eight years,

In gratitude to a Faithful Servant,

Erected this Stone.

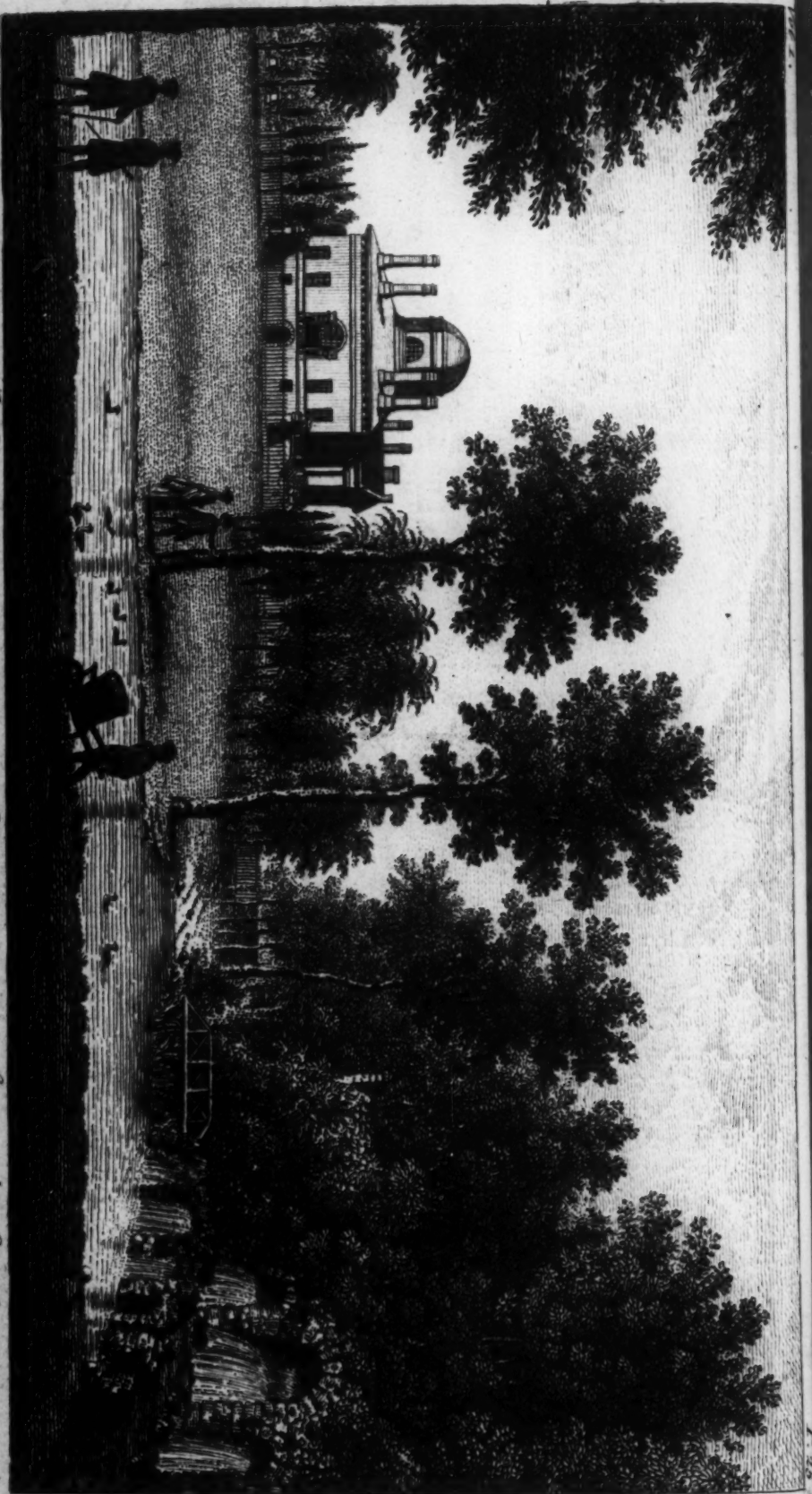
I S L E W O R T H.

Isteworth, or as it is sometimes called *Thistleworth*, is a very
pleasant village, finely situated on the banks of the Thames,
about two miles from Twickenham. Richard, King of the
Romans, had a palace here, which was burnt down by the
Londoners in an insurrection. Between this place and a small
village called Worton, there was a mill in the reign of Queen
Elizabeth for the manufacture of copper and brass, which were
melted and forged out of the ore brought up from Mendip-
hill in Somersetshire. Here is an handsome church, and two
charity-schools. Several persons of distinction have seats here,
particularly the Earl of Shrewsbury.

B R E N T F O R D.

This town, which is about eight miles from London, re-
ceives its name from a brook, called *Brent*, which rises about
Finchley-common, and runs through the west part of the
town, called *Old Brentford*, into the Thames. As it is a great
thorough-fare to the west, it has a considerable trade, particu-
larly in corn, both by land and the Thames : and it is ex-
tremely full of inns and public-houses. The market-house
stands in that part of the town called *New Brentford*, where
there is a church ; and there is also another in Old Brentford.
The market is held on Saturday, and there is also an annual
fair on the 10th of August. There are two charity-schools
here.

The late Earl of Burlingtons Seat at Chiswick, seen from the Garden.



here. Old Brentford is situated upon a fine rising bank close to the Thames, and is naturally capable of being made a very beautiful spot. The opposite side of the River is Kew Green, which appears from hence to advantage.—The Earl of Holderness has an handsome seat near Brentford.—At the Butts on the north of New Brentford, is the place for the election of members for the county of Middlesex.

C H I S W I C K.

This is a pleasant village in Middlesex, situated on the banks of the Thames, about six miles from London. Here are several elegant seats, but the most remarkable is that of the late Earl of Burlington, which now belongs to the Duke of Devonshire. Lord Burlington had here before a plain, commodious building, with good offices about it; but a part of the old edifice being some years ago destroyed by fire, his lordship erected near it the present beautiful villa, which, for elegance of taste, is supposed to surpass every thing of its kind in England. The court in the front, which is of a proportionable size with the building, is gravelled and constantly kept very neat. On each side are yew hedges in panels, with *Termini* placed at a proper distance; and in the front of these hedges, are two rows of cedars of Libanus, which, at a small distance, have a fine effect; the dark shade of these solemn ever-greens affording a pleasing contrast to the whiteness of the elegant building that appears between them, the view of which from the road surprizes the spectator in a most agreeable manner.

The ascent to the house is by a noble flight of steps, on one side of which is the statue of Palladio, and on the other that of Inigo Jones. The portico is supported by six fine fluted columns of the Corinthian order, with a pediment very elegant, and the cornice, frieze, and architrave, as rich as possible. This magnificent front strikes all who behold it with uncommon pleasure and admiration.

The octagonal saloon finishing at top in a dome, through which it is enlightened, is also very elegant. The other rooms are extremely beautiful, and are finely finished with pictures of the greatest masters. Though the other front towards the garden is plainer, yet it is in a very bold, noble, and masterly stile, and has at the same time a pleasing simplicity, as hath also the side front towards the serpentine river, which is different from the two others. If this edifice has any fault, it is its being too small for so magnificent a design.

The inside of this structure is finished with the utmost elegance; the cieling is richly gilt and painted, and the rooms adorned with some of the best pictures in Europe. In the gardens, which are very beautiful, the vistas are terminated by a temple, obelisk, or some such ornament, which produce a most agreeable effect.

The gardens are laid out in the finest taste: on descending from the back part of the house, you enter a verdant lawn planted with clumps of ever-greens, between which are two rows of large stone vases. At the ends next the house are two wolves in stone, done by the celebrated Scheemaker, the statuary; at the farther end are two large lions, and the view is terminated by three fine antique statues, dug up in Adrian's garden at Rome, with stone seats between them, and behind a close plantation of ever-greens.

On turning to the house on the right hand, an open grove of forest-trees affords a view of the orangery, which is seen as perfectly as if the trees were planted on the lawn; and when the orange-trees are in flower, their fragrance is diffused over the whole lawn to the house. These are separated from the lawn by a fossée, to secure them from being injured by the persons admitted to walk in the garden.

On leaving the house to the left, an easy slope covered with short grass leads down to the serpentine river, on the side whereof are clumps of ever-greens, with agreeable breaks, between which the water is seen; and at the farther end is an opening into an inclosure, where are a Roman temple, and an obelisk, with grass slopes, and in the middle a circular piece of water.

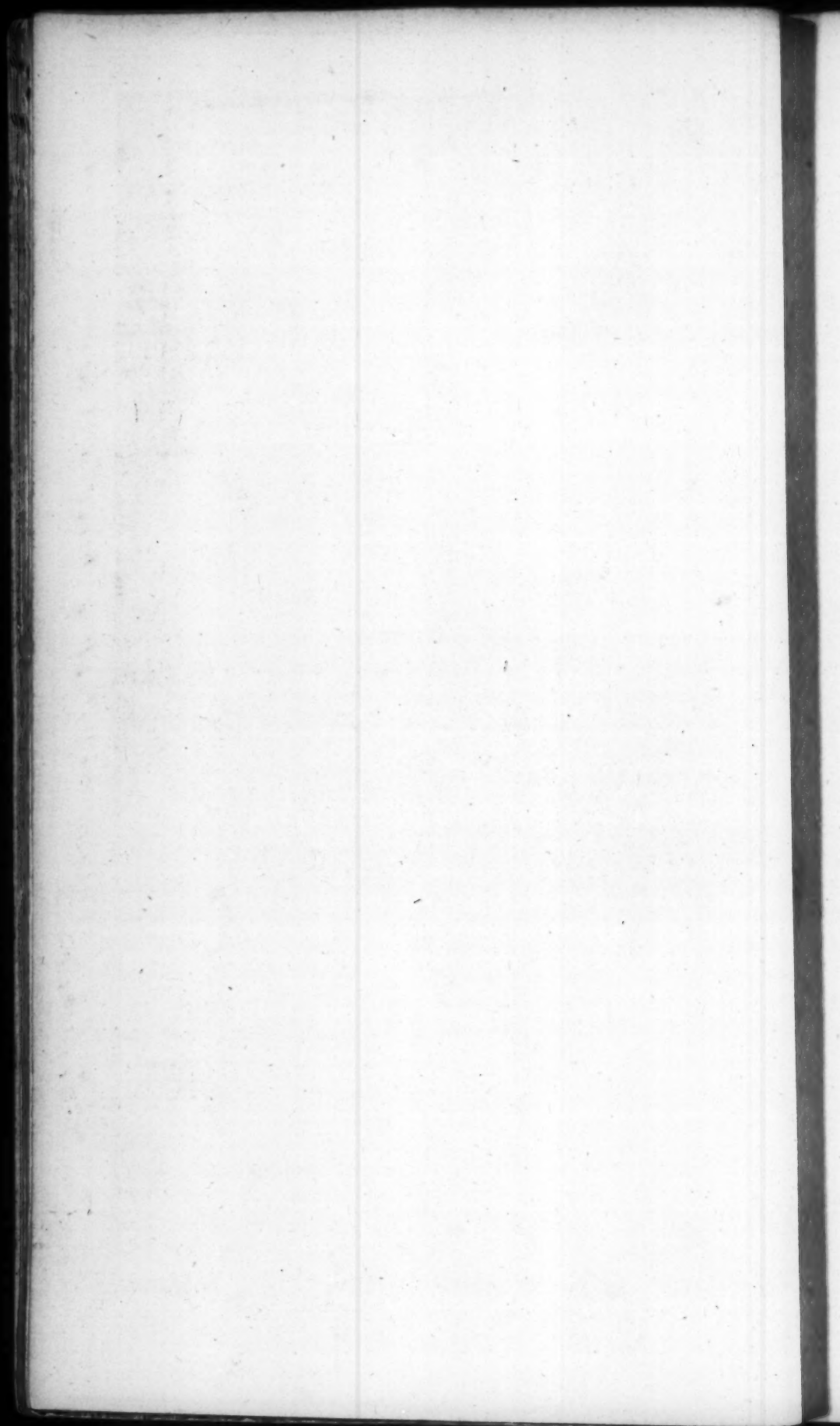
From hence you are led to the wilderness, through which are three straight avenues terminated by three different edifices; and within the quarters are serpentine walks, through which you may ramble near a mile in the shade. On each side the serpentine river, are verdant walks, which accompany the river in all its turnings. On the right hand of this river is a building that is the exact model of the portico of the church of Covent-garden; on the left is a wilderness laid out in regular walks; and in the middle is a Palladian wooden bridge over the river.

With the earth dug from the bed of this river, Lord Burlington raised a terrace, that affords a prospect of the adjacent country; which, when the tide is up, is greatly enlivened by the view of the boats and barges passing along the river Thames.

Among



View of the back part of the Capina, & Serpentine River in Chiswick Gardens.



THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 27

Among the variety of fine paintings which are in the different apartments of Chiswick House, the following may deserve particular notice; viz. In the Saloon; Lord Burlington, and three of his sisters, Elizabeth, Juliana, and Jane, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the Morocco ambassador in the reign of Charles II. the figure by Sir Godfrey Kneller, and the back ground and horse by Wyke; King Charles I. his queen, and two children, by Vandyke. In the Red Velvet Room, a Madonna della Rosa, by Domenichino; Painting and Designing by Guido Rheni; the Holy Family, by Carlo Maratti; King Charles I. by Cornelius Johnson; the Duchess of Somerset, by Vandyke; the first Countess of Burlington, by the same artist; a portrait by Rembrandt; Mr. Killigrew, by Vandyke; the first Earl of Burlington, by the same; Mary, Queen of Scotland, by Fred. Zuccherò; and the Procession of the Dogesse, by Paolo Veronese. In the Blue Velvet Room; a Chymist's shop, by David Teniers; a landscape and figures by Gaspar Poussin; Lord Sandwich in a round, by Sir Peter Lely; a woman frying fritters, by Schalcken; the Holy Family, by Carlo Maratti; the Flight into Egypt, by Nicolo Poussin; and Inigo Jones in a round, by Dobson. In the Red Closet next the Blue Room; a landscape and ruins, by Viviano, the figures by Mich. Angelo; Fishermen, by Rubens; a man hawking, by Inigo Jones; Temptation of St. Anthony, by Annibal Caracci; the Samaritan woman, by Paolo Veronese; a boy's head, by Holbein; and Cleopatra, by Leonardo da Vinci. In the Green Velvet Room; Mars and Venus, by Albano; our Saviour in the Garden, by Guercino; Rembrandt in his painting-room, by Gerrard Dow; Bellifarius, by Vandyke; and the Earl of Pembroke and his sister, by the same artist. In the Bed-chamber; the Earl of Cumberland, in a round; Lady Burlington, in a round; and Mr. Pope, also in a round, by Kent. In the Gallery, Lord Clifford and his family, painted in 1444 by John Van Eyk, called John of Bruges; Lady Dorothy Boyle, in crayons, by Lady Burlington; a head, by Holbein; a Venus sleeping; Henry IV. of France, in Mosaick; and the Ascension, by Albano. In the New Dining Room, the finding of Moses, by Seb. Ricci; a portrait by Rubens; the first Lady Halifax, by Sir Peter Lely; the marriage of Cupid, &c. by Andrea Schiavone; Mars and Venus, by Le Fevre; the woman taken in adultery, by Allesandro Veronese; and Liberality and Modesty, after Guido.

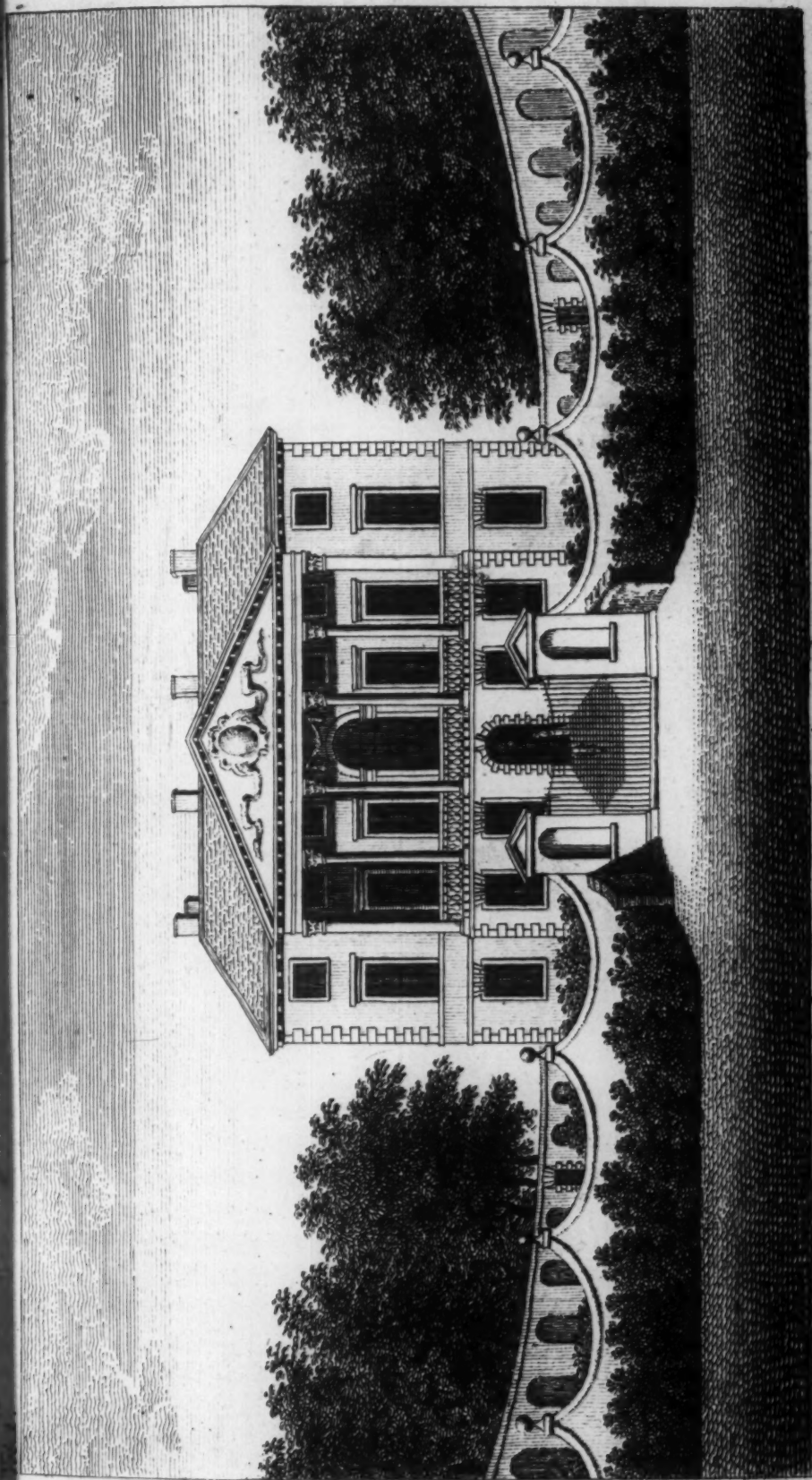
G U N N E R S B U R Y.

Gunnersbury House, which is situated between Acton and Old Brentford, is an elegant structure, first built by Mr. Webb, son-in-law to the famous Inigo Jones. It was some years since the seat of Henry Furnese, Esq; but is now the residence of the Princess Amelia. The building, which is at once remarkable for majestic boldness and simplicity, is situated on a rising ground; and the approach to it from the garden is extremely fine.

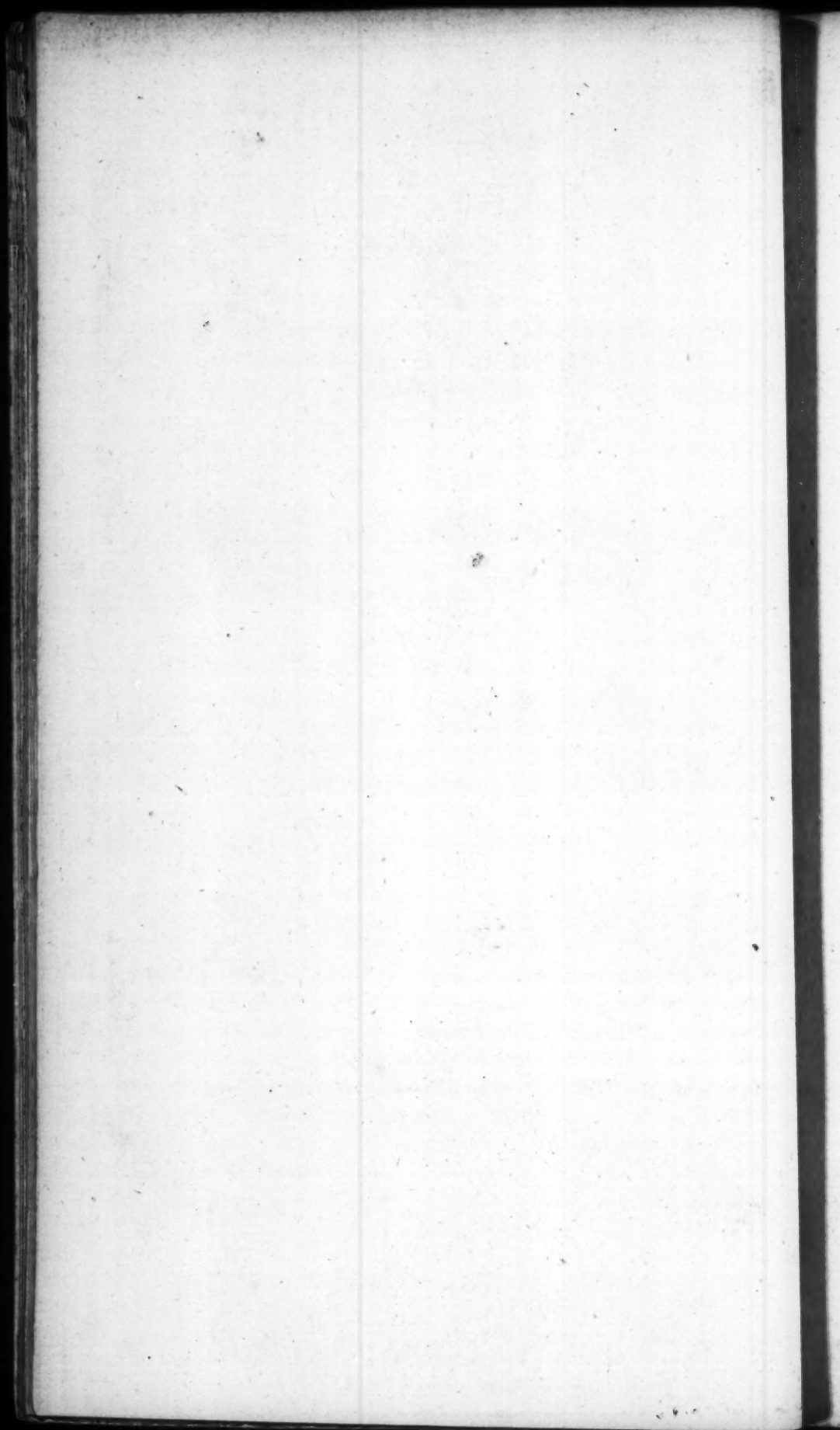
The grand portico at the back front, which is supported by stately columns, has a beautiful appearance at a distance, and commands a fine prospect of the county of Surrey, the river Thames, and of all the meadows on its banks for some miles, and in clear weather of even the city of London.

The apartments are extremely convenient and well-contrived. The hall, which is large and spacious, is on each side supported by rows of columns, and from thence you ascend by a noble flight of stairs to a saloon, which is a double cube of twenty-five feet high, and most elegantly furnished. This fine room has an entrance into the portico on the back front: and from the fineness of the prospect over the Thames, is a delightful place to sit in, during the afternoon in the summer-season. For it being contrived to face the south-east, the sun never shines on it after two o'clock; but extending its beams over the country, enlivens the beautiful landscape that lies before this part of the edifice. On entering the garden from the house, you ascend a noble terrace, which affords a delightful view of the neighbouring country; and from this terrace, which extends the whole breadth of the garden, you descend by a beautiful flight of steps, with a grand balustrade on each side. But it has been objected, that the gardens are laid out too plain, having the walls in view on every side.

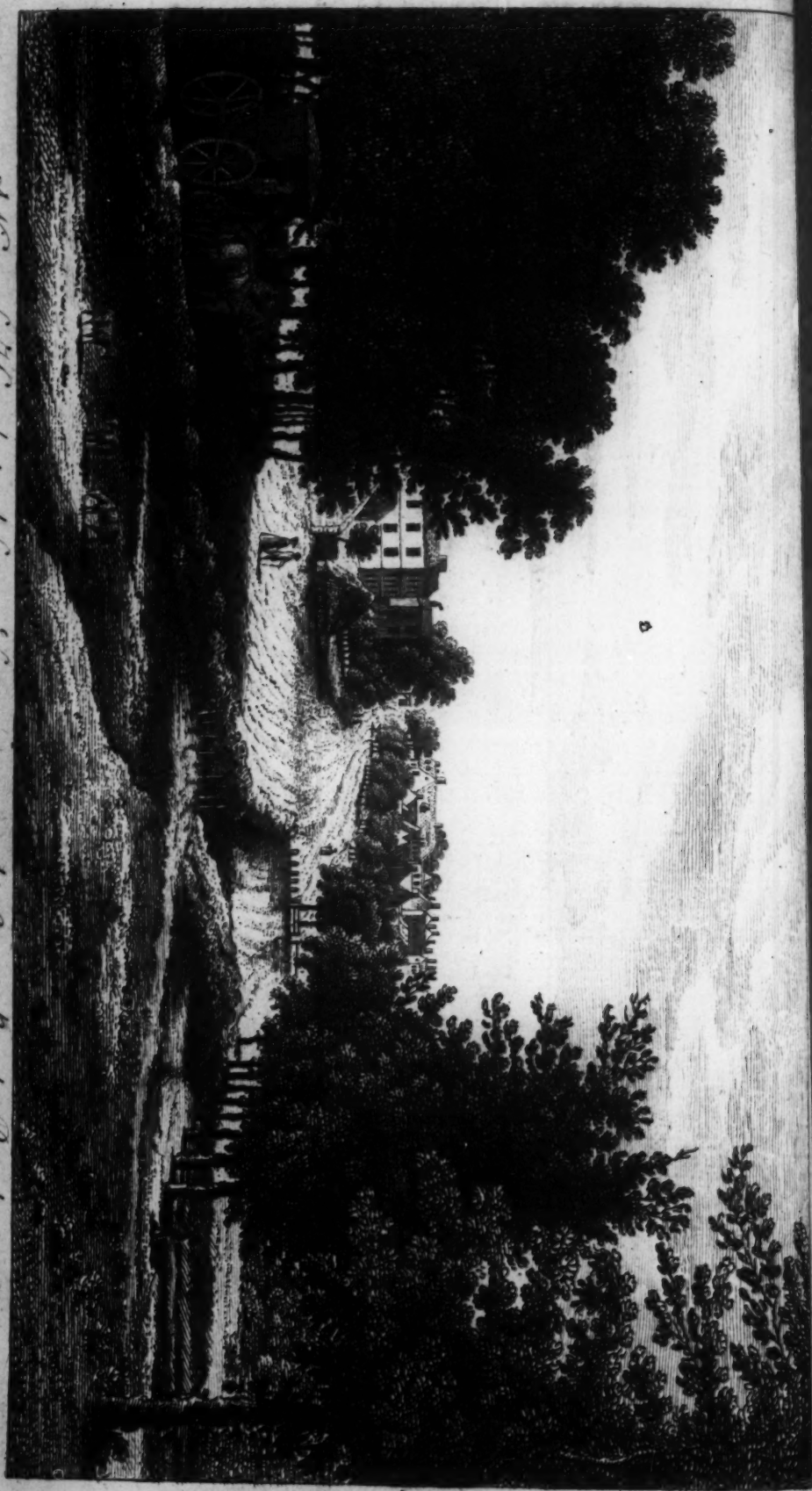
Acton is a considerable village about seven miles from London, in which there is an handsome church, and several gentlemen's seats.—That part of it which is called *East-Acton* has been of note for the wells near it on *Old Oak Common*, which used to be much frequented in May, June, and July, for their purging waters. At a small distance from hence is what is called *Friar's Place*, which is supposed to have been formerly a monastery; and at a farm-house in it, there is an



Gunnersbury House, the Seat of the Princess Amelia.



A View of Hampstead from 4 feet away near the Great Road. Pond Street.



an orchard, which, in old writings, is called the Devil's orchard.

About three miles from the last-mentioned place, is the village of *Kilborne*, or *Kilburn*, which is in the parish of Hampstead. Here was formerly an hermitage, and afterwards a nunnery, to which the manor belonged; as did also some lands and tenements in Knightsbridge; but after the dissolution of the monasteries, the site of this nunnery was given by Edward VI. to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick. A spring of medicinal waters was found out here a few years since.

At a small distance from hence is *Belfryse*, which though now decayed, was formerly a fine seat of Lord Wotton; and afterwards of the late Earl of Chesterfield. Here was also a chapel, and a deer-park. This place was of special note in 1720, the famous south-sea year, when it was turned into an academy for music, dancing, and play; and not a little frequented by reason of its neighbourhood to London.

H A M P S T E A D.

This is a fine village in Middlesex, situated near the top of a hill, about four miles on the north west side of London. On the summit of this hill is a heath of about a mile every way, that is adorned with several pretty seats, in a most irregular romantic situation; and has a most extensive prospect over the city, into the counties all around it, viz. Bucks and Hertfordshire, and even Northamptonshire, Essex, Kent, Surrey, Berks, &c. with an uninterrupted view of Shooter's-hill, Bansted-Downs, and Windsor-castle. Its chapel was anciently a chapel of ease to Hendon, till about 1478, when it was separated from it by the abbot and convent of Westminster, then patrons of the rectory of Hendon, who made a curacy or donative of it in their gift, as it remained till the suppression of the monasteries, at which time King Henry VIII. settled it on his new-made bishopric of Westminster; but King Edward VI. dissolving that see, granted the manor and chapel of Hampstead to Sir Thomas Wroth, for his services to the crown. After this it belonged to the Earls of Gainsborough; but it has since been the property of several other persons.

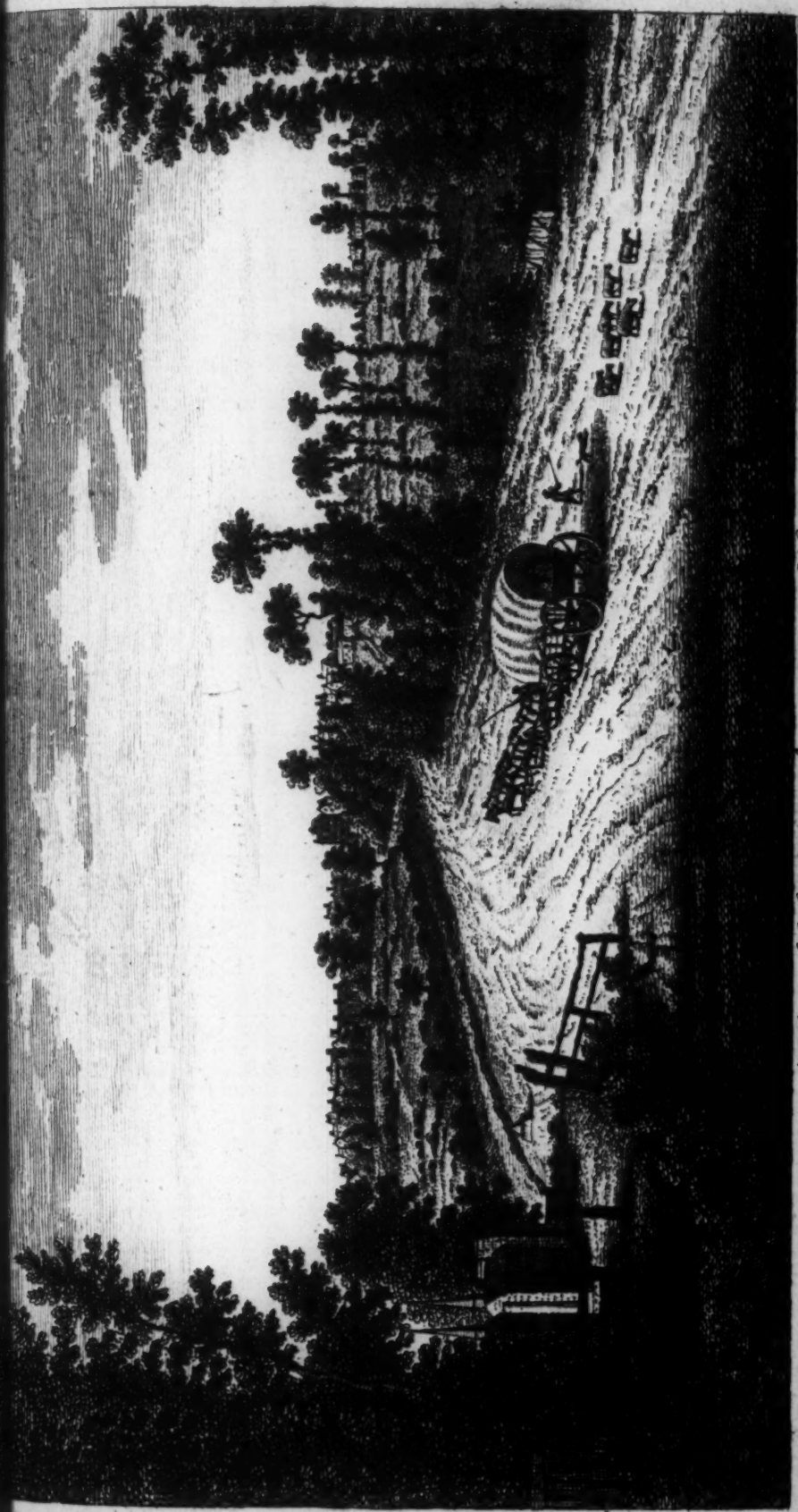
This village used to be much resorted to for its mineral waters; but they have lately been neglected. There is here a fine assembly room; and the old church, which was a chapel belonging to the lord of the manor, was some years ago pulled down, and a new one erected in its room. There

is, also a handsome chapel near the wells, built by the contributions of the inhabitants, who are chiefly citizens and merchants of London; and there is here also a meeting-house. Though this place is now so crowded with good buildings, yet it is observable, that in the reign of Henry VIII. it was chiefly inhabited by the laundresses who washed for the Londoners.

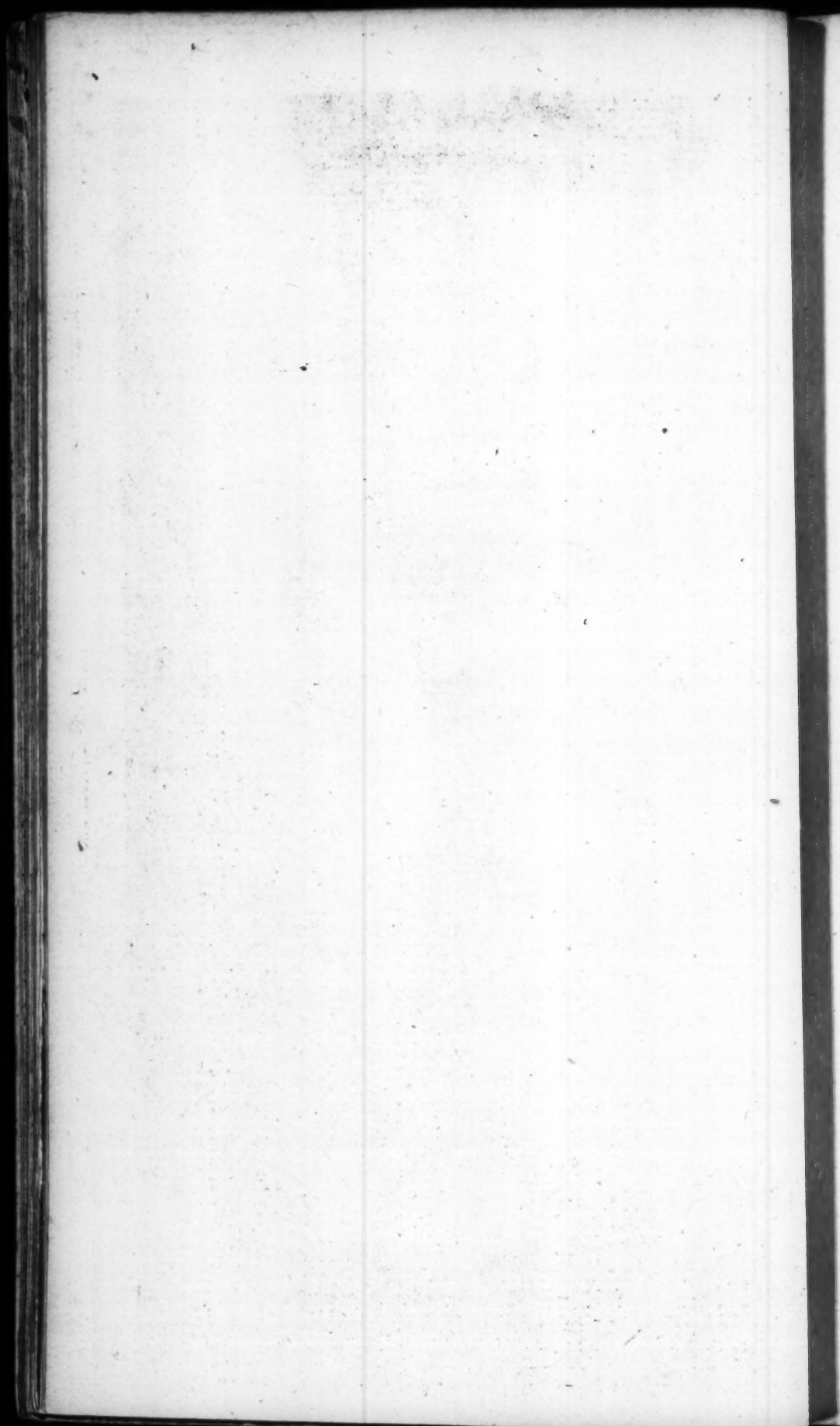
H I G H G A T E.

At a small distance eastward of Hampstead is *Highgate*, a very large and populous village, a little above four miles north of London. It receives its name partly from its high situation, overlooking London, and great part of Kent, Essex, and Hertfordshire; and partly from a gate set up there above four hundred years ago, to receive toll for the bishop of London, when the old miry road from Gray's Inn Lane to Barnet was turned through the Bishop's Park. This toll was farmed by Queen Elizabeth at 40l. a year. Where the chapel stands, which is a very antient edifice, was formerly an hermitage, and one of the hermits caused a causey to be made between Highgate and Islington, by gravel dug out of the top of the hill, where is now a pond. The bishop of London presented the hermits, the last of whom was William Forte, presented to the hermitage, in 1531, by Bishop Stokesley. Near the chapel, in 1562, a free school was built and endowed by Lord Chief Baron Cholmondeley, at his own private expence; but it was enlarged, in 1570, by Edwin Sandys, Bishop of London, and a chapel added to it. One William Pool, yeoman of the crown, also founded an hospital here, below the hill, in the reign of King Edward the Fourth.

On that side of Highgate which is next London, the fineness of the prospect over the city, as far as Shooter's-hill, and below Greenwich, has occasioned several handsome edifices to be built; particularly a very fine house erected by the late Sir William Ashurst.—It is remarkable, that most of the public-houses in Highgate have a large pair of horns placed over the sign; and that when any of the country people stop for refreshment, a pair of large horns fixed to the end of a staff, is brought to them, and they are earnestly pressed to be sworn. If they consent, a kind of burlesque oath is administered; that they will never eat brown bread when they can get white; never drink water when they can get wine, or small beer when they can get strong;
never



A View of Highgate from Upper Holloway.



Cane Wood, the Seat of Lord Chief Justice Mansfield.



never kiss the maid, when they can kiss the mistress; and abundance of other things of the same kind, which they repeat after the person who brings the horns, with one hand fixed upon them. This ridiculous ceremony is altered according to the sex of the person who is sworn; who is allowed to add to each article, "except I like the other better." The whole being over, he or she must kiss the horns, and pay a shilling for the oath, to be spent among the company, to which he or she belongs.—At a small distance from Highgate is *Cane-wood*, where Lord Mansfield, the present Chief Justice of the King's Bench, has a fine seat, the situation of which is extremely rural.

On the east-side of Highgate is *Muswell-Hill*, which took its name from a spring or well on the hill, near a house built by Alderman Roe, which afterwards came to the late Earl of Bath. By this well, which was esteemed holy, was a chapel with an image of our Lady of Muswell, to which great numbers went in pilgrimage. Both the manor and chapel were sold in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to Mr. William Roe, in whose family they continued, till Sir Thomas Roe, the ambassador, sold them in the last century. The manor-house was afterwards converted into an house of public entertainment.

Not far from hence is the village of *Hornsey*, which is five miles north of London. Its church, whereof Highgate is a hamlet, is supposed to be built with the stones that came from Lodge-hill, the bishop of London's hunting-seat in his park here; it having been his manor from the most ancient times. *Hornsey-wood*, which is nearer London, is a coppize of young trees, at the entrance of which is a genteel public house, to which great numbers of persons resort from the city. This house being situated on the top of a hill, affords a delightful prospect of the neighbouring country.

TOTTENHAM HIGH CROSS.

This is a village in Middlesex, on the west-side of the river Lea, five miles north-east from London.—David, King of Scotland, being possessed of this manor, after it had belonged to the Earls of Northumberland and Chester, gave it to the monastery of the Trinity in London; but King Henry VIII. granted it to William Lord Howard of Effingham, who being afterwards attainted, it reverted again to the King,

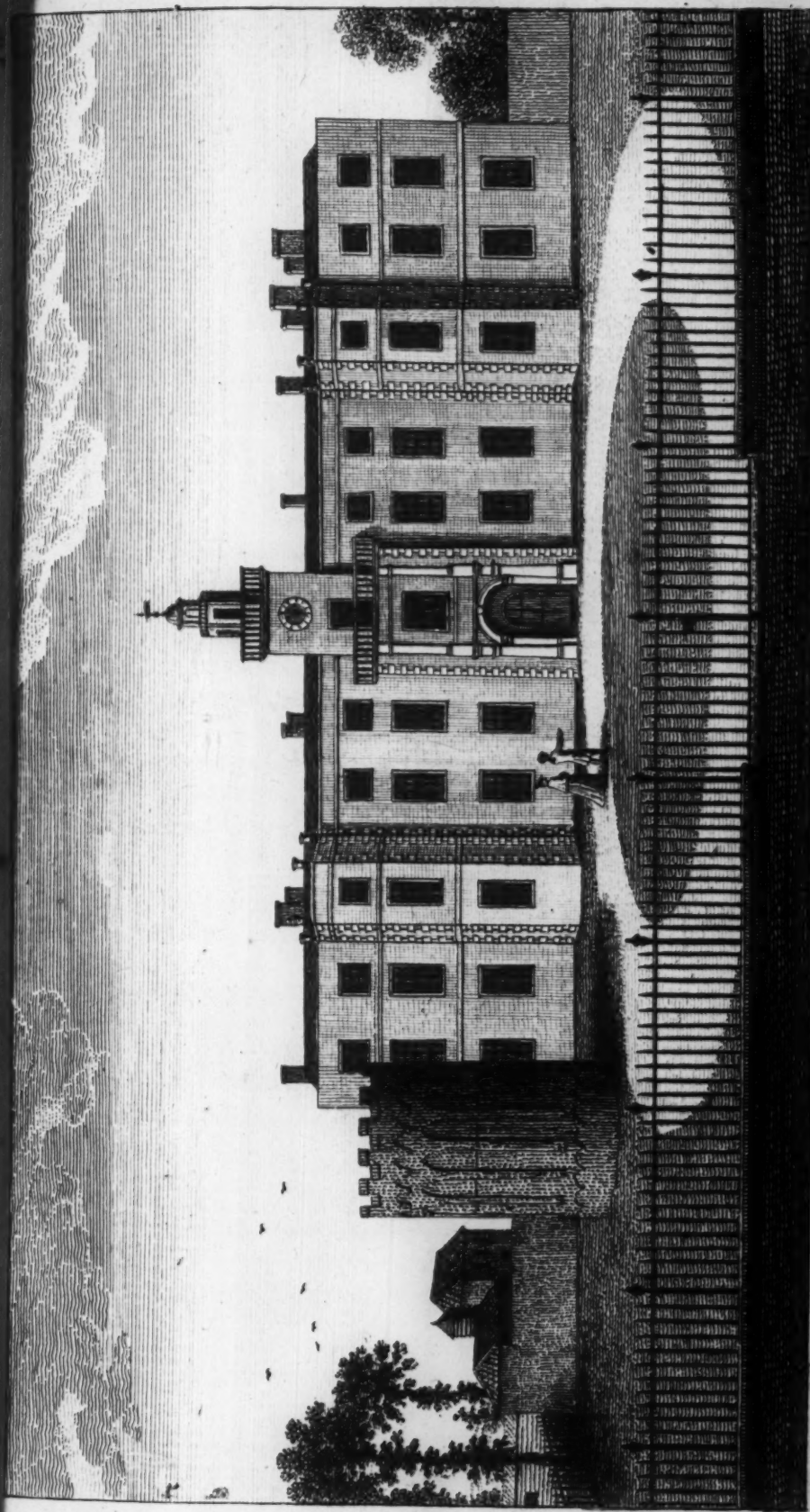
King, who then granted it to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, to whom it still belongs. The church stands on a hill, which has a little river called the Mosel at the bottom, to the west, north, and east.

The parish is divided into four wards, viz. 1. Nether Ward, in which stands the parsonage and vicarage. 2. Middle Ward, comprehending Church end, and Marsh-street. 3. High Cross Ward, containing the Hall, the Mill, Page-green, and the High Cross. And, 4. Wood Green Ward; which comprehends all the rest of the parish, and is larger than the three other wards put together.

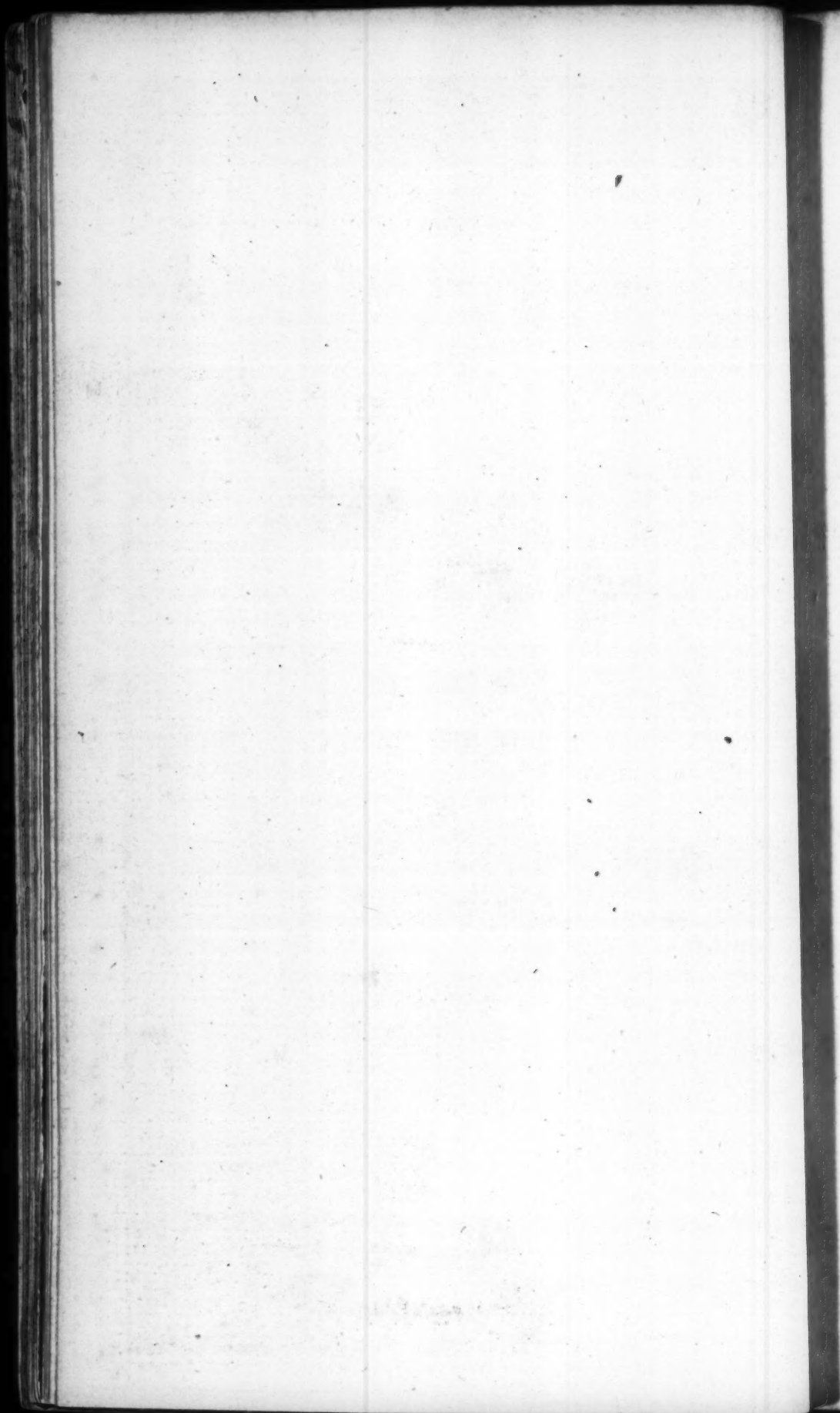
The *Cross*, which gives name to the place, was once much higher than it is at present, and upon that spot Queen Eleanor's corps was rested, when it was brought from Lincolnshire, where she died, to London. Of St. Loy's well, in this parish, it is said, that it is always brimful, but never runs over; and of the Bishop's Well the people report many strange cures.

In the middle of a circular tuft of elms, at the end of Page-green, which are called the *Seven Sisters*, there stood many years a walnut-tree always flourishing, yet never grew bigger nor taller. The seven trees which go under the denomination of the *Seven Sisters*, are said to have been planted by seven sisters; and one of the trees being crooked, the country people very gravely add this marvellous circumstance, that the female who planted this tree was crooked, though all her sisters were straight; and her obliquity, it seems, communicated itself to the tree which she planted.

There was a very great wood formerly, of 400 acres, on and about the hill, on the west side of the parish.—In 1596, an alms-house was founded here by one Zancher, a Spaniard, the first confectioner ever known in this kingdom. Here are also a free-school, and a charity-school for twenty-two girls, who are cloathed and taught.—In the reign of Henry VIII. George Hevingham, Esq; one of that prince's favourites, founded an alms-house here for three poor widows.—There are many pretty country-houses and gentlemen's seats in this neighbourhood; and, among others, Alderman Townsend has a very handsome seat here, known by the name of *Bruce Castle*. It is in a very pleasing situation, and the building has at once an air of neatness, grandeur, and antiquity.



Bruce Castle, the Seat of Mr. Alderman Townsend.



WALTHAMSTOW.

This is a considerable village, in the county of Essex, situated on the river Lea, about six miles from London. The greatest part of this parish, in Edward the Confessor's reign, belonged to Waltheof, a nobleman of great eminence, who submitted to William the Conqueror, and was thereupon restored to his honours and paternal estates. William also afterwards conferred on him the earldoms of Northumberland, Northampton, and Huntingdon, and gave him his niece Judith in marriage. Notwithstanding which, Waltheof engaging in a conspiracy to depose William, was beheaded at Winchester, about the year 1075.

The river here divides Essex from Middlesex as far as Lea-bridge. There are several ancient seats, and handsome houses, belonging to persons of distinction, at Walthamstow. The most remarkable of which was that of *Higham-hall*, pleasantly situated upon Higham-hill, a rising ground, about half a mile north from Clay-street, just above the river Lea, overlooking the counties of Middlesex and Hertfordshire, and commanding a most delightful and extensive prospect. It has been a magnificent and spacious fabric, and in ancient times, when the lords resided upon their royalties, no place could be more admirably situated than this mansion, erected at the top of the hill of Higham, and having within its view the whole extent of its jurisdiction: but there are now hardly any traces of its ancient grandeur remaining.

Walthamstow-church, which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is a large edifice situated upon a hill, and consists of three isles, that on the north-side built by Sir George Monox, Knt. Alderman and Lord-mayor of London in the reign of Henry VIII. is called Monox's isle; that on the south-side bears the name of Thorne's isle, from a citizen and merchant-taylor of that name, who was probably at the expence of building it. In this church are a great number of monuments.

Sir George Monox also built alms-houses on the north-side of the church-yard for thirteen poor people; eight men, and five women; with an apartment for a free-school. And for their maintenance settled on trustees an estate in Mark-lane, London. Mr. Henry Maynard, a merchant of London, was also a great benefactor to this parish.

Anthony Bacon, Esq; has a good house, standing in a paddock, about a mile and a half east from the church. And

E

Thomas

Thomas Grosvenor, Esq; has a fine old house, half a mile west from the church.

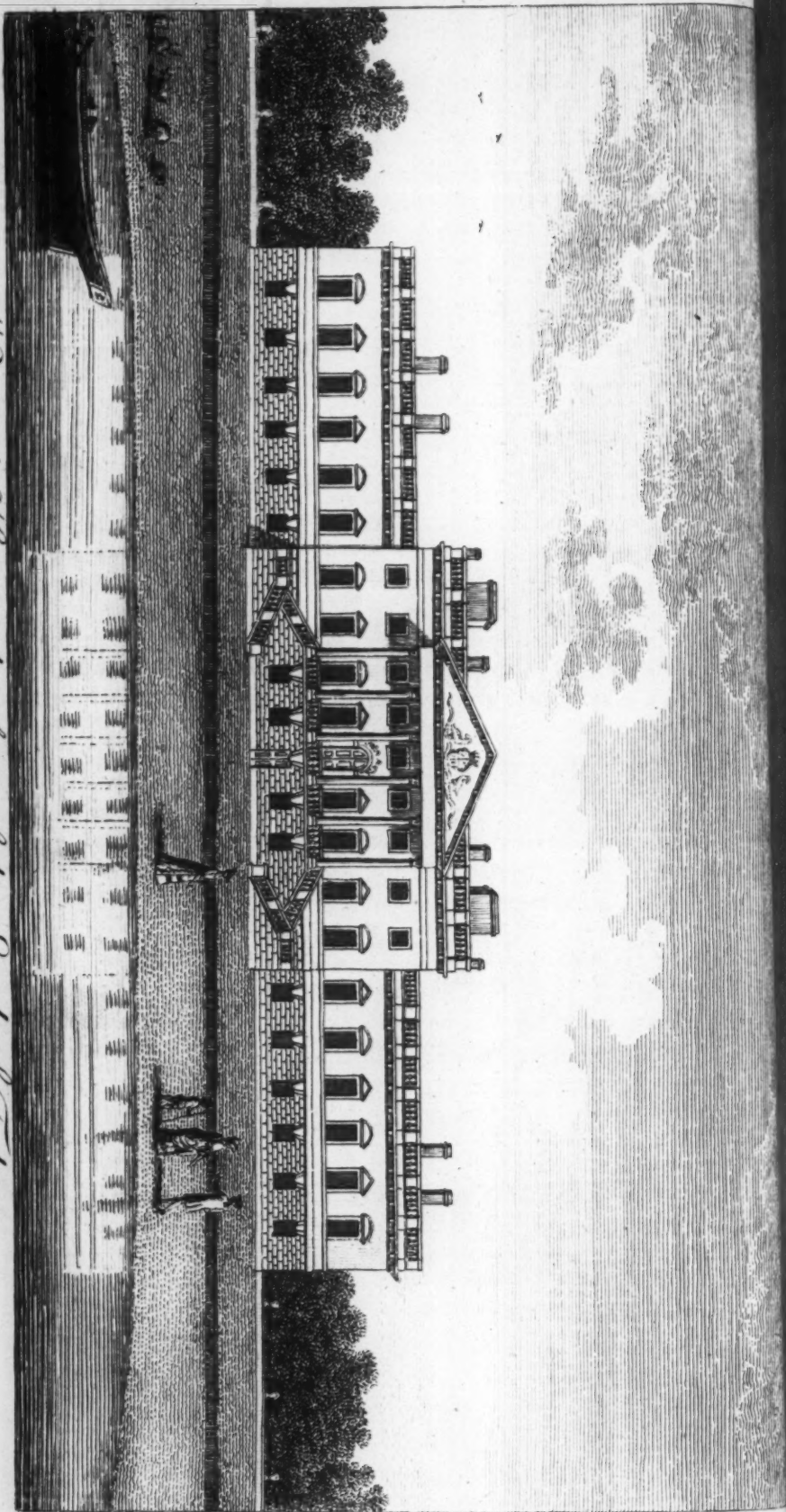
Walthamstow contains several streets or hamlets, but which are not closely joined or connected together, but are situated as follows; Shanhall-street, an hundred yards east from the church; Hare-street, a quarter of a mile south-east; Woodford-street, half a mile east; and March-street, three quarters of a mile west of the church.

W A N S T E D.

This is a very pleasant village, at the distance of six miles from London. The parish of Wansted joins to that of Walthamstow. Wansted is in a delightful situation, the greatest part of it standing on an hill, from which is commanded a beautiful prospect of the city of London, and its environs; the fine hills of Kent; the river Thames; and rich views in the neighbouring parishes. It is supposed that there was here a Roman villa, or some little station: for in the year 1715, as Sir Richard Child's gardeners were digging holes for planting an avenue of trees in the park, on the south-side of the lower part of the gardens, they discovered a tessellated Roman pavement. The owner would not permit it to be laid quite open; but by the fragments thrown up, they observed, that it consisted of small square Tesseræ of brick of divers colours, from one inch to a quarter of an inch square. Round it there was a border of about a foot broad, composed of red dies about three quarters of an inch square; within which were several ornaments wove in wreaths, and in the middle the figure of a man riding, holding something in his right hand. The pavement was situated on a gentle gravelly ascent, towards the north; and, at a small distance from the south-end of it, was a spring, or well, of fine water, now absorbed in a great pond. From this well the ground rose gently towards the south, till it came to an exact level, which reaches a great way. On the very brink of this level, and about 300 yards directly south from the before said well and pavement, were the ruins of some brick foundations. Some years afterwards, upon making farther improvements, the workmen found several sherds of broken pots, or fragments of urns, of different kinds of earth, some brown, some white, &c. but all of a coarse clay; many pieces of bricks, which proved there had been a building there; and many calcined human bones, teeth, &c. A silver medal; a copper one of the emperor Valens; and another of copper, generally

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Mansted-House, the Seat of the Earl of Tyroney.



THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 35

generally esteemed to be of the Constantine age, were likewise found here. Smart Lethieulier, Esq; was of opinion, that this was the mausoleum of some private family, whose villa perhaps stood on the more elevated ground where Wansted now stands.

The church here, which is dedicated to St. Mary, stands near Wansted-house, and was new built, chiefly at the expence of the late Richard Earl Tylney. Among other monuments in this church, there is a very sumptuous one erected to the memory of Sir Josias Child, a very eminent merchant, and well known for his excellent treatise on trade. This gentleman purchased the manor of Wansted, from whom it came to his descendant, the present possessor, John, Viscount Castlemain, and Earl of Tylney.

There are at Wansted, and in its neighbourhood, several fine seats of the nobility, gentry, and wealthy citizens; but their lustre is greatly eclipsed by WANSTED-HOUSE, the magnificent seat of Earl Tylney. This noble seat was prepared by Sir Josias Child, who added to the advantage of a fine situation, a vast number of rows of trees, planted in avenues and vistas leading up to the spot of ground where the old house stood. The late Lord Tylney, before he was enobled, laid out the most spacious pieces of ground in gardens, that are to be seen in this part of England. The greenhouse is a very superb building, furnished with stoves and artificial places for heat, from an apartment which has a bagnio, and other conveniences, that render it both useful and pleasant.

The house was built since these gardens were finished, by the late Earl of Tylney, and designed by Col. Campbell, and is certainly one of the noblest houses not only near London, but in the kingdom. It is two hundred and sixty feet in length, and seventy in depth, fronted with Portland stone. It consists of two stories, the state and ground story. This latter is the basement, into which you enter by a door in the middle underneath the grand entrance, which is in a noble portico of six Corinthian columns supporting a pediment, in which are the arms of Lord Tylney. To this you ascend by a flight of steps, and pass into a magnificent saloon, richly decorated with painting and sculpture, through which you pass into the other state rooms, which are suitably furnished with pictures, gilding, velvet, tapestry, and other rich hangings. Before this house is an octangular basin,

which seems equal to the length of the front. On each side as you approach the house, are two marble statues of Hercules and Venus, with obelisks and vases alternately placed. The garden front has no portico, but a pediment with a bas-relief supported by six three quarter columns.

The fore front of the house has a long vista that reaches to the great road at Leighton Stone, and from the back front facing the gardens is an easy descent that leads to the terrace, and affords a most beautiful prospect of the river, which is formed into canals; and beyond it the walks and wildernesses extend to a great distance, rising up the hill, as they sloped downwards before; so that the sight is lost in the woods, and the whole country, as far as the eye can reach, appears one continued garden.

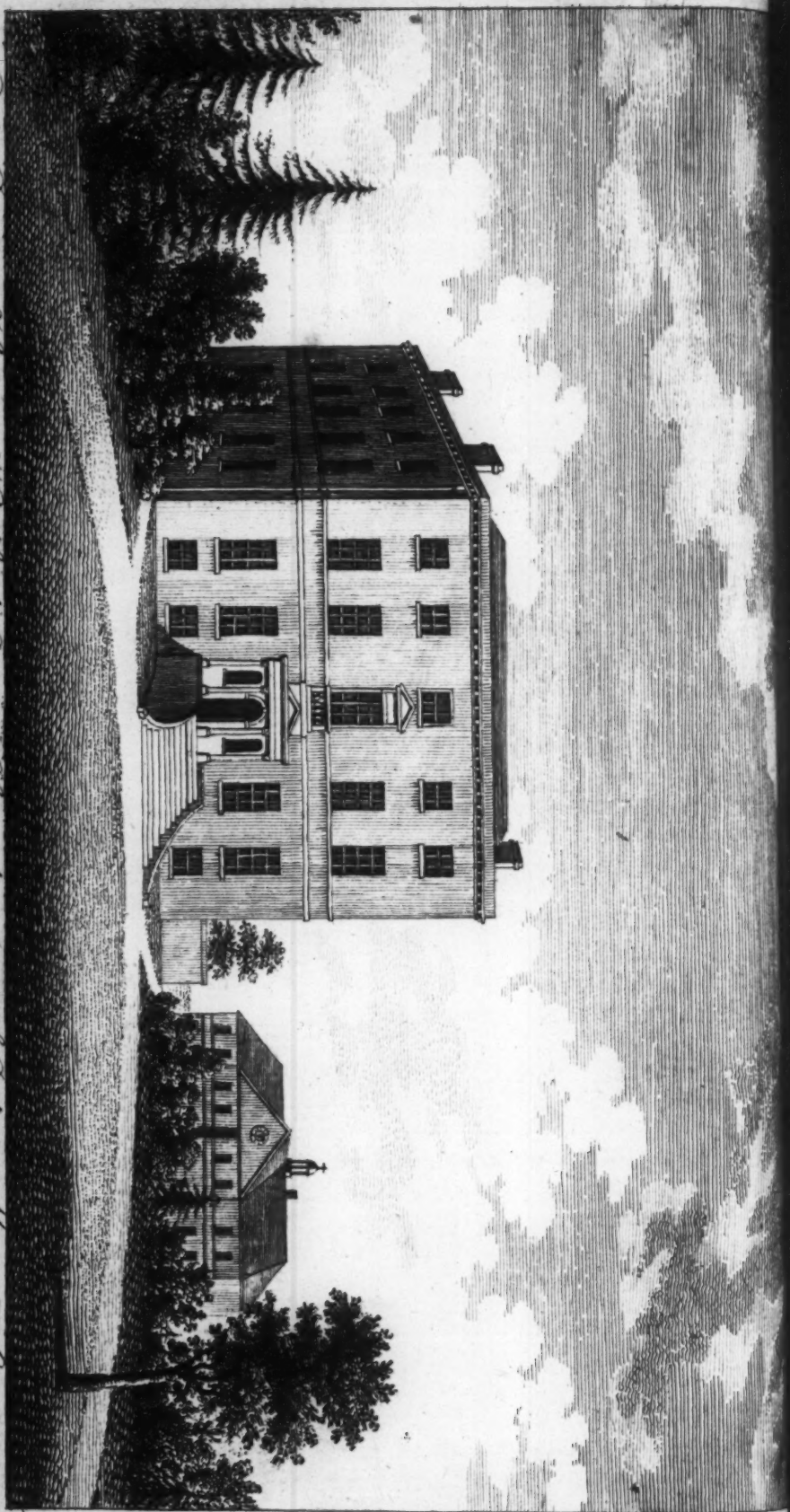
The grand hall in Wansted House is 53 feet long, by 45 broad; the ornaments consist chiefly of two large antique statues, on marble pedestals, Livia and Domitian; and three large pictures by Casali, Coriolanus, Porfenna, and Pompey taking leave of his family. The Ball Room, which runs the whole breadth of the house, is 75 feet by 27; and is very elegantly fitted up with gilded ornaments of all kinds. One of the dining rooms is ornamented by three large pictures by Casali; Alexander directing Apelles to paint Campaspe, who is sitting naked in a chair; the continence of Scipio; and Sophonisba taking poison.

The manor of *Cannons-Hall*, or *Cann-Hall*, lies about a mile south-west from Wansted church. It anciently belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, in London. It is now the property of William Colgrove, Esq;—A good house in this parish, pleasantly situated, and having 30 acres of gardens, was built in 1690, by Sir Francis Dashwood; and from him the estate passed to Sir Orlando Bridgeman; but it is now the property of Humphrey Bowles, Esq.

W O O D F O R D.

This village is eight miles from London; and derives its name from the ford in the wood, or forest, where now is Woodford bridge. This was one of the seventeen lordships with which Earl Harold endowed his abbey of Waltham-holy-cross, and was confirmed to that monastery, with all its lands and appurtenances, and liberties, by King Edward the Confessor, in his charter, in 1062. The custom of the manor of Woodford is *Borough-English*; by which the youngest son inherits. The origin of this custom has been a subject
of

The Prospect House at Woodford Town in Essex, the Seat of Robert Maxam Esq. R.



of much dispute; but it appears to have prevailed greatly in the kingdom of the East-Saxons. Dr. Plot has conjectured, that it was introduced by the lord of the manor's claiming the right of enjoying the bride, daughter of his tenant, on the wedding-night; therefore the villain, or slave, doubting whether the eldest son was his own, made the youngest heir.' But as there seems not to be sufficient evidence, that this ever was an established practice, the doctor's conjecture has been supposed not to be well founded.

At *Woodford Row*, Richard Warner, Esq; has a fine garden, with a labyrinth, adorned with several Greek inscriptions, and other curiosities. And Robert Moxam, Esq; has an exceeding good house here, called the *Prospect-house*, a name which it derives from its situation, which is remarkably pleasant.—Woodford Wells were formerly in repute, as purgative, and good for many disorders, but are now entirely neglected.

About a mile from Woodford is the parish of *Chingford*, in which there is an estate of 24*l. per annum*, holden of the rector. Upon every alienation, the owner of the estate, with his wife, man-servant, and maid-servant, each single on a horse, come to the parsonage; where the owner does his homage, and pays his relief, in the following manner. He blows three blasts with his horn; carries a hawk on his fist; his servant has a greyhound in a slip; both for the use of the rector for that day. He receives a chicken for his hawk, a peck of oats for his horse, and a loaf of bread for his greyhound. They all dine, after which the master blows three blasts with his horn, and they all depart.

C H I G W E L L.

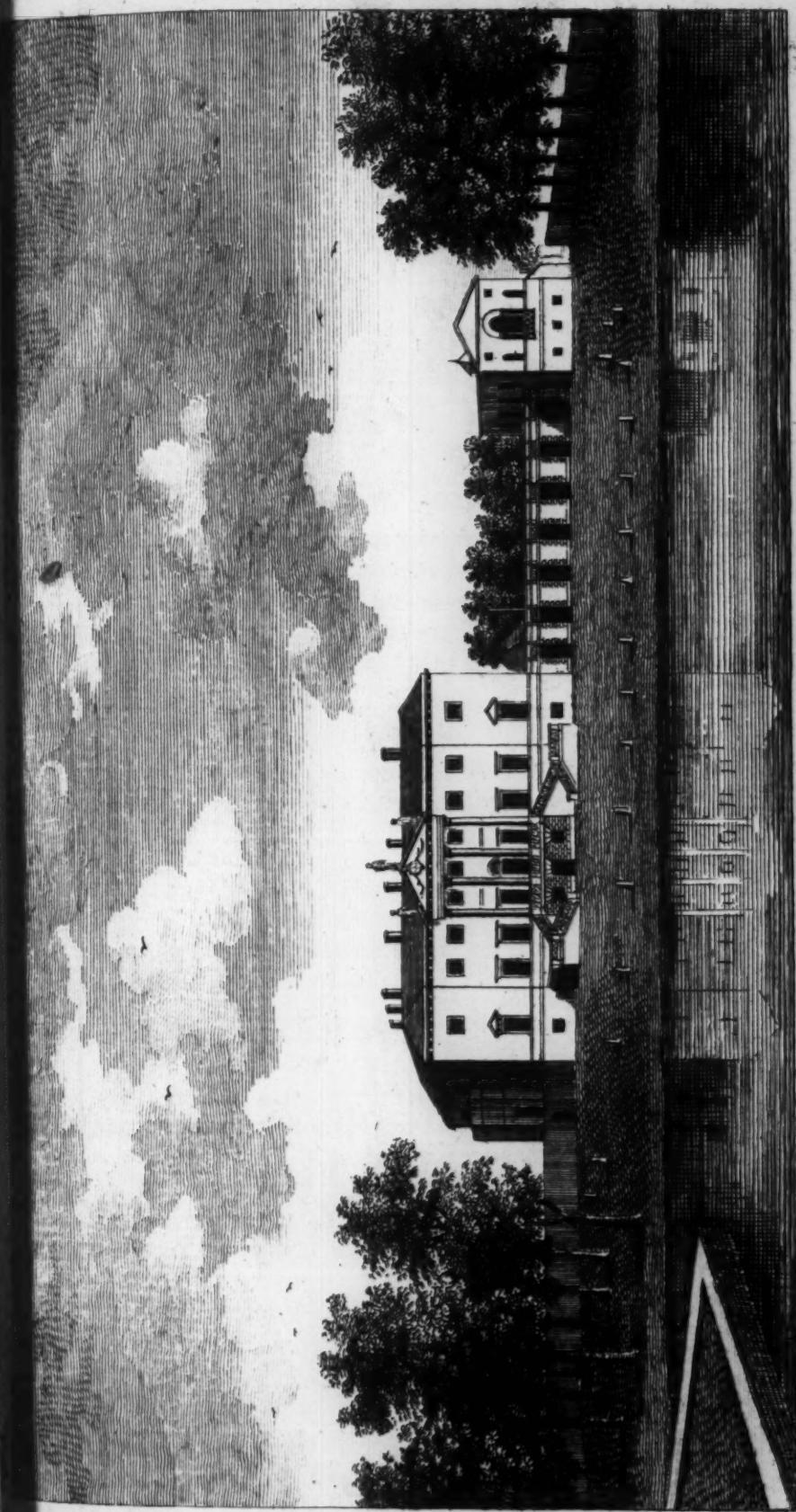
This is a pleasant village in Essex, about ten miles from London. This parish, as well as the neighbouring ones, is most delightfully situated; on which account, and from its convenient distance, it is much frequented by persons from the metropolis, it being one of the most pleasing rides within the like distance. The village is neat and agreeable, and has good accommodations for travellers; but carries on no manufacture; it being rather a place for receiving those who are fond of short excursions into the country, than a place of much commerce. From Chigwell-row is a fine view extending upwards of thirty miles, and comprehending a great part of the river Thames, bounded by the pleasant hills of Kent; by Danbury.

Danbury-spire in Essex; by the forest of Henhault; and an exceeding rich country around.

In Chigwell church, there is a fine large plate of brass, with the whole length portraiture of Samuel Harsnett, archbishop of York, engraved thereon in a very curious manner. This prelate, who had been vicar of this parish, founded here two free schools, one called the Grammar, the other the English school. At the west end of the church is a wooden belfrey, built of chesnut, containing five bells; and over the belfrey is a handsome spire, shingled.—About a mile and a quarter south-west of the church, in a bottom, washed by the river Roding, is *Luxborough*, a fine seat belonging to John Raymond, Esq;—The manor of *Barringtons*, now called *Rolls*, is about half a mile north-east from the church. The mansion-house to it is an elegant modern building, with extensive offices, and every conveniency suitable to render it a very commodious and agreeable seat. It stands upon the declivity of a large hill, and is enriched with a fine prospect.

The *Forest of Henhault*, in this neighbourhood, is supposed to have been so named, on account of its having been stocked with deers from Henhault in Germany. Within this forest stands the remarkable large oak, called *Fair-lop*, measuring upwards of fifteen yards in bulk: it is not an over-tall tree, but is singularly beautiful and curious, on account of the boughs spreading from top to bottom in a regular circle; and being level underneath, about ten feet from the ground, so as to represent an umbrella. A custom prevailed among many of the Londoners, to come yearly to eat beans and bacon, dressed under the boughs of this tree, which are supposed to extend about eighty feet from the body, all around. It at last became so remarkable, that a fair was held under it called *Fair-lop Fair*; which fair some years ago was ordered to be discontinued by Lord Tilney and the Verdurer, on account of its becoming a nuisance; for besides the riots which frequently happened there, the deer suffered much.

Lamborn is a pleasant parish, adjoining to Chigwell. The houses herein are scattered at a distance from each other, some of which are neat, and the residence of gentlemen of fortune; particularly *Deux-hall*, the seat of R. Lockwood, Esq; which commands an extensive prospect; and *Bishop's-hall*, the seat of William Waylet, Esq. The latter derives its name from its having been formerly the habitation of Henry Spencer, bishop of
of



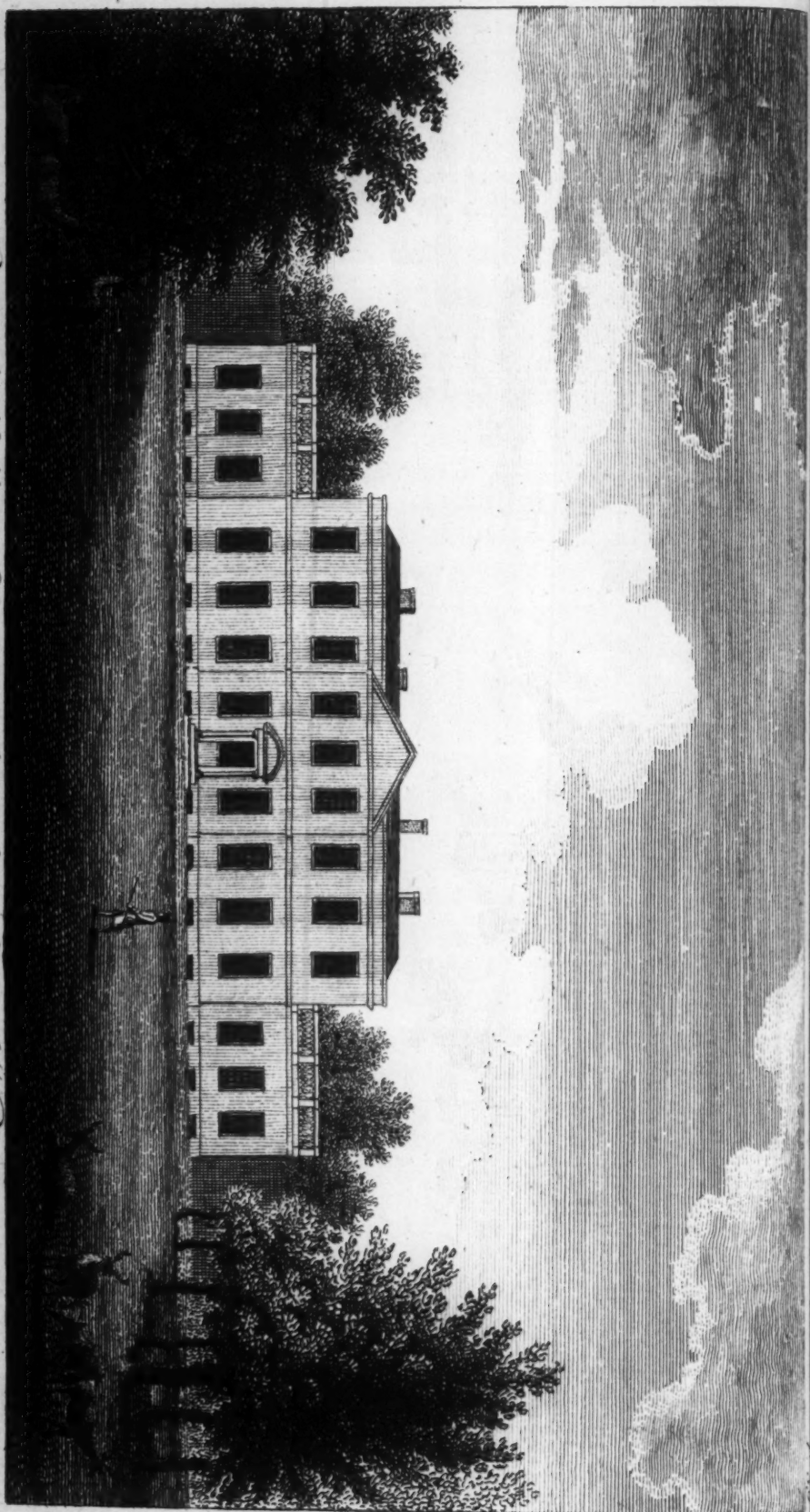
Barrington Hall, at Hatfield Broad Oak in Essex.

T. Olney del.

Webster Hall, in Essex, the Seat of Geo. Wright Esq.



Norwiche Hall, in Essex, the Seat of the Earl of Macclesfield.



of Norwich, in the reign of King Richard II. a prelate more celebrated for his military exploits, than his learning or his piety. The soil here is fruitful, and of various kinds, and husbandry alone seems to be the employ of the inhabitants. Lamborn church appears to be a very ancient edifice.

At a little distance from hence, in the parish of Stapleford Abbots, Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, Bart. member of parliament for Knaresborough in Yorkshire, has a fine seat, known by the name of ALBYNS. It is situated about half a mile north from Stapleford church, and is surrounded by a small park. It is a large stately edifice, and by some thought to be erected by Inigo Jones; but Mr. Horace Walpole is of opinion that this is a mistake.—Knowle, otherwise called Knowle's hill, a mile south-west from the church, is a pleasant spot in this parish, where Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, of whom we just made mention, had also a seat. A piece of ground here, being a wood of twelve acres, is still called Bishop's Moat, where is a moat, reported to have been paved with marble.

In the adjoining parish of Navestock, stands NAVESTOCK HALL, the seat of the Earl of Waldegrave. It is situated a little way north from the church, is a handsome regular brick building, and has so many advantages and decorations, both of nature and art, as renders it a very pleasing and elegant seat. The gardens and grounds around it have been much improved by Lord Waldegrave.

The parish of *Kelvedon-Hatch* adjoins to Navestock; it is but a small one, but has two seats in it belonging to persons of figure in the county. One of which, belonging to John Wright, Esq; and known by the name of KELVEDON-HALL, is a very elegant new-built brick-house, with proper offices belonging to it; and likewise pleasant gardens, some pieces of water, and other decorations; but what contributes in the greatest measure to render this spot delightful, is the rich and extensive prospect that it commands; in which a part of London, although full twenty miles distant, is to be seen on a fine clear day by the naked eye.—John Luther, Esq; one of the members of parliament for the county of Essex, has also a seat here called MILES's, about a mile distant from the church.—On a tomb-stone in the church here, is a plate with the following inscription:

“ Fratres in unum.

“ Here lies Richard and Anthony Luther, Esq; so

“ truly loving brothers, that they lived near forty years.

“ joint

“ joint house-keepers together at Miles’s, without any
 “ accompt between them.”

In a neighbouring parish, *Theydon Mount*, is a fine seat known by the name of *HILL-HALL*, which for elegance, and the fineness of its prospects, is esteemed inferior to few in the county of *Essex*. This edifice was built by Sir Thomas Smith, secretary of state in 1548. It is quadrangular, with very thick and lofty walls, adorned with columns in imitation of stone. The entrance to it is northward, along a stately avenue of great length and suitable breadth, on each side of which are rows of stately elms, and other plantations. Great alterations were made in it by Sir Edward Smith in the last century, and more have been made by its present owner, Sir Charles Smith.—The church here, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is pleasantly situated. It was burnt by lightning, and was re-built by Sir William Smith, of brick, tiled. In the chancel of this church are several costly monuments, the most ancient of which is that erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Smith, whom we have just mentioned, and who was not only an able Statesman, but one of the most learned men of the age in which he lived, and a great promoter of the study of the Greek language.

Theydon Gernon is a very pleasant parish, which lies upon the west-side of *Theydon-mount*. It is frequently called *Coopersale*, from a capital seat about two miles north of the church. The house stands upon the declivity of a hill, on the right hand side of the road to Epping. Around the house are a variety of beautiful lawns, vistas, and other agreeable objects; but the prospect is very much confined. The village is but small, and consists chiefly of a few shops, and houses of artificers. But this, with some of the neighbouring parishes, may with propriety be called *the garden of Essex*, from the pleasing variety of the hills and vales, the fertility of the soil, the goodness of the roads, the neatness of the buildings, and the many additional ornaments they receive from the number of noblemen’s and gentlemen’s seats with which they abound; insomuch that a traveller cannot pass through this part of the county without being struck with its beauty, and the variety of noble and pleasing prospects which in different places present themselves to his view.

At a small distance from hence is the parish of *Loughton*, which is about thirteen miles from London, and in a very healthy situation. The village is small and neat, but carries on little or no traffic. In this parish are several very good houses,

houses, particularly that in which captain Williams resides, on the left hand side of the road leading to London: one belonging to Sackville Boyle, Esq; at the bottom of Bucket-green; and another to Alexander Hamilton, Esq; upon Debden-green. Richard Lomax Clay, Esq; late high sheriff of this county, has an excellent house upon the summit of Golden-hill, which commands an exceedingly rich and extensive prospect, in which the greatest part of the city of London is included. And Loughton-hall, though it is not a regular, is a large handsome building, surrounded by a variety of beautiful prospects. The parish of Loughton was one of the seventeen lordships wherewith Earl Harold endowed his monastery of Waltham; and in that monastery it continued till the suppression, when it came to the crown. It is said, that in 1688, the princess of Denmark, afterwards queen Anne, retired to Loughton-Hall, when she saw how things were going on with her imprudent father. Loughton church is very agreeably situated, having a fine prospect all around it.

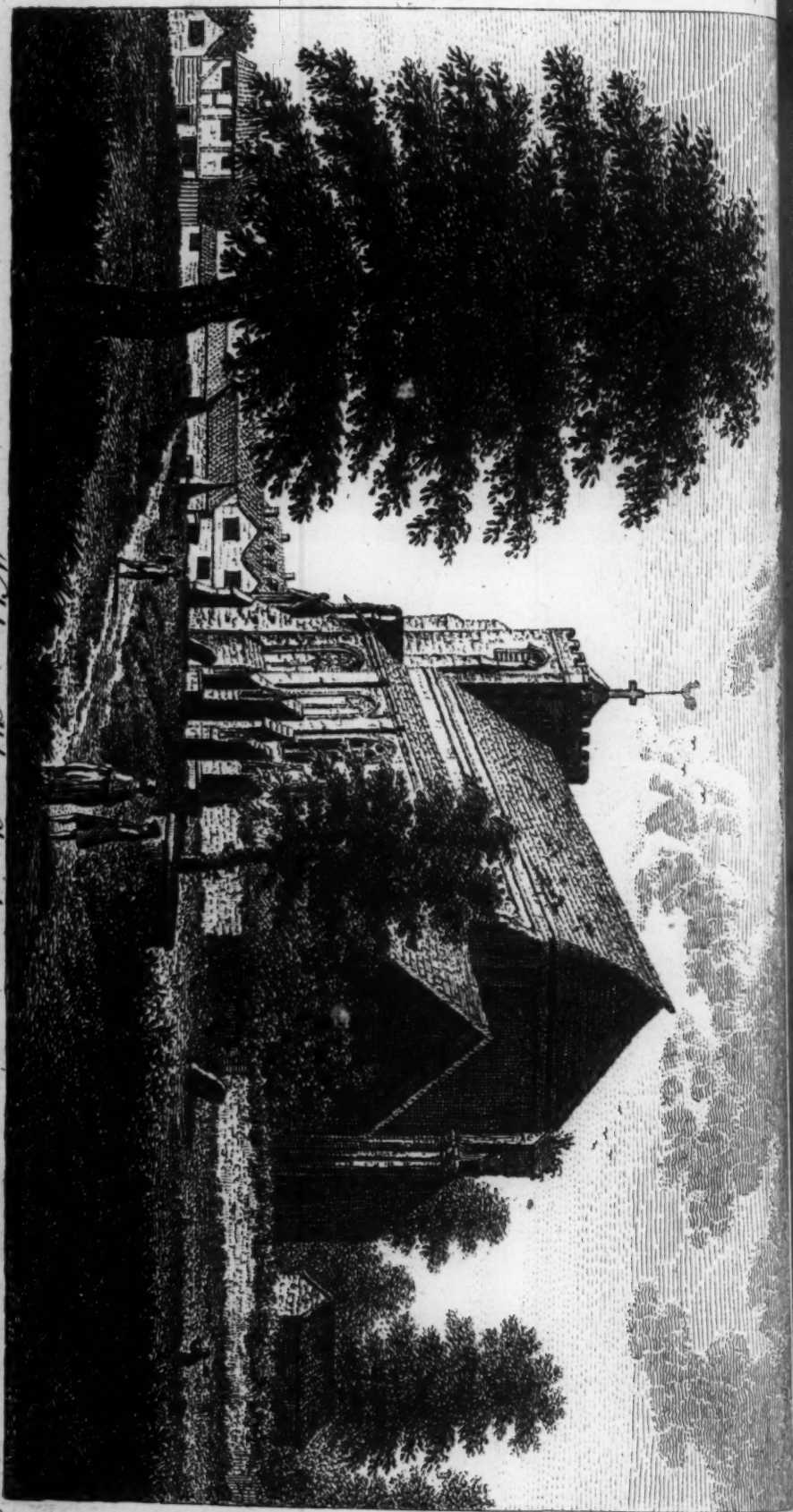
WALTHAM-ABBNEY, or WALTHAM-HOLY-CROSS.

This is a town in Essex, on the east-side of the river Lea, which here dividing, incloses some islands with fine meadows, and parts Essex from Hertfordshire, and this village from Waltham-Cross, or West Waltham. The first mention which is made of this place by ancient writers, is about the latter times of the Saxons; when it appears that Tovi, a man of great wealth and authority, standard-bearer to King Canute, induced by the abundance of deer, built a number of houses here, and peopled them with sixty-six inhabitants. King Edward the Confessor, into whose hands it afterwards came, bestowed this village upon his brother-in-law Harold, son to Earl Godwin, who built an abbey here, from whence this place derives its present name. Tovi had begun a church here for two priests, and committed to their keeping a miraculous *Cross*, said to have been discovered in a vision to a carpenter far westward, and brought hither in a manner unknown; which was reported to work many wonders. On account of that cross, this place is said also to have obtained the name of *Holy-Cross*.

After Harold became possessed of it, in the year 1062, he founded here a college for a dean, and eleven secular canons, in memory of King Edward, his queen Ædith, his father and

mother, and all his other relations; and endowed it with West Waltham, and sixteen other manors. Many other very considerable grants were afterwards made to this monastery, and it was also endowed with very great and special privileges and immunities. However, it appears that the foundation for a dean and canons was of no longer continuance than from the year 1062 to 1177. For the court of Rome having formed the design of introducing into all convents *monks* instead of *seculars*, under the pretence that the latter lived more irreligiously and carnally than the others, King Henry II, converted this college into a monastery for an abbot, and sixteen monks of the order of St. Augustine. His principal motive for so doing, appears to have been, the saving his money; for, in order to pacify the Pope, having vowed to erect an abbey for canons regular, to the honour of God and St. Thomas à Becket, for the expiation of his sins, it was much cheaper for him to make a small change in this, than to erect a new one. However, from this time till the dissolution of the monasteries, it continued an abbey for Austin monks. Its abbots, who were mitred, and had the 20th place in parliament, lived in a most splendid, but hospitable manner; and were frequently visited by King Henry III. when he was reduced, and obliged to carry his family about for a dinner. The abbey was at the dissolution bestowed by King Henry VIII. on Sir Anthony Denny, one of his favourites, and gentleman of his bed-chamber; but the manor of Waltham is at present in the possession of Sir William Wake, Bart.

This abbey was a curious, large, and antique structure; the whole front a few years ago was entirely rebuilt with brick and stone, after a modern and beautiful form by Charles Wake Jones, Esq; and on each side front it had a wing. The hall was exceedingly handsome, being remarkable for its curious wainscoting and excellent paintings. In length it measured sixteen yards and a half; in breadth eight yards and a half; and in height nine yards and one foot. It was encompassed with many fertile pastures, and pleasant meads and marshes. The spacious garden belonging to it was surrounded by a beautiful canal: the garden, which was very delightful, contained a variety of plants, and fruits, fine groves and walks, and in short, every thing that was necessary to render it agreeable. But the fine tulip-tree that is here must not be forgotten, it being esteemed the largest that ever was seen. This tree is still left, and is encompassed by a paling.



Waltham Abbey Church.

a paling. But the house was pulled down in 1770, and the gardens are now let to a gardener.

Waltham-abbey Church is a Gothic edifice, rather large than neat, firm than fair, and very dark. The great pillars are wreathed with indentings, which are said to have been formerly filled up with brass. To the south-side of the church adjoins a chapel, now converted into a school; and formerly called *our Lady's*, because there was founded in it a chantry of that name: and under it is a very fair arched chancel-house. The whole was formerly well leaded, but is now tiled. In the middle stood the tower, cathedral-wise. Part of it falling down soon after the surrender of the abbey, probably in pulling down the chancel and choir, a wall was run up at the east end of the church; and a handsome tower was erected at the west end, 86 feet in height from the foundation to the battlements. This was begun in the year 1558, at the charge of the parishioners; and three years were employed in the building it. Every year's work is discernible by the difference in the stones; and the parish was obliged, in order to raise money to complete the building, to sell their bells, which before hung in a wooden frame in the church-yard. So that Waltham, which had formerly bells without a steeple, had for some years a steeple without bells. There are now six bells.

The founder, King Harold, was buried in this church, with his two brothers, Girth and Leofwine. Since the demolition of the chancel, or of a chapel thereto adjoining, the place of his sepulture is within the garden of the lord of the manor. Over his grave laid a grey marble stone, with a cross carved upon it, and a Latin epitaph, which has been thus translated:

“ A fierce foe thee slew; thou a King, he a King in view:
 “ Both peers, both peerless; both fear'd, and both fearless:
 “ That sad day was mixt, by Firmin and Calixt;
 “ Th' one help'd thee to vanquish, t' other made thee to languish.
 “ Both now for thee pray, and thy requiem say;
 “ So let good men all, to God for thee call.”

The last account we have of this tomb-stone, is, that it was at Waltham-mill, and seen there by Dr. Uvedell of Enfield. Towards the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, King Harold's coffin was discovered by one Tomkins, gardener to Sir Edward Denny, being of a hard stone, and covered with another; wherein the bones lay in proper order, with-

out any kind of dirt, but upon the touch mouldered into dust.

A decent meeting-house was erected here in 1729, for Protestant Dissenters. There are also here four alms-houses, founded for four widows by Mr. Green, purveyor to King James I. with an orchard and a barn adjoining, the rent of which is payable to the said widows. Upon the alms-houses is the following inscription, the sentiments of which deserve to be attended to, whatever may be thought of the poetry.

- “ Birth is a pain, life, labour, care, toil, thrall;
- “ In old age strength fails, lastly, death ends all.
- “ Whilst strong life last, let virtuous deeds be shown;
- “ Fruit of such trees are thereby hardly seen or known.
- “ To have reward with lasting joys for ay,
- “ When vicious actions fall to ends decay.
- “ Of wealth o'erplus, land, money, stock, or store,
- “ In life that will relieve aged, needy, poor,
- “ Good deeds defer not till the fun'ral rite be past;
- “ In life-time what's done, is made more sure, firm, fast;
- “ So ever after it shall be known and seen
- “ The leaf and fruit shall ever spring fresh and green. 1626.

In the eastern extremity of this parish, partly in it, and partly in that of Epping, by the side of Copped Hall Park, is a fine old camp, inclosing 11 acres, 2 roods, and 20 perches; commonly called Amber's-bank. The new road from Debdon-green to Epping goes through it. Mr. Morant is of opinion, that the decisive battle between Boadicea and the Romans was fought hereabouts.—Harold's Park, so named from Earl Harold, part of whose demesnes it was, and given by him to Waltham-abbey, is about three miles north-east of the church.

The town of Waltham-abbey, is built mostly of timber; it is very irregular and inconvenient, and makes but a mean appearance: the chief house in it is that of James Barwick, Esq. The market-place is small, and the market, which is held on Tuesdays, is well provided with grain, and noted for fine veal, pork, and pigs. Here are two fairs annually; one on the 14th of May; and the other on September 25, 26; which last was formerly held for seven days. On the one side of the town are large and beautiful meadows, some of which are used in common to the town. These meadows in the time of king Alfred, in the year 876, laid under water: which great water was then navigable. That truly great king (who really was, what some later
kings

kings have only pretended to be, the Father of his people) divided the grand streams of the river Lea into several rivulets, by which means some Danish ships which lay here for security, became water-bound, and their mariners were obliged to shift for themselves, over-land; which proved a great check to the ravages of the Danes.

A new navigable river hath lately been cut here. It takes its rise at a place called Ives's ferry, in Hertfordshire, where it is supplied from the old river Lea, and extends through part of the town of Waltham-abbey, Endfield, Edmonton, and Hackney-marshes, Bromley, Lime-house, and Dick shore, emptying itself into the Thames. The chief utility of which is, that the navigation to Waltham-abbey is shortened about ten miles, and the expensive delay of the craft in the Thames by easterly winds is in a great measure avoided. These rivers afford plenty of fish, some salmon-trouts, eels, carp, tench, pike, perch, craw-fish, and many others.

Near the town, on one of these rivers, are several curious gun-powder-mills, upon a new construction, worked by water, the old ones having been worked by horses. These are reckoned the most compleat in England, and will make near an hundred barrels weekly for the service of the government, each barrel containing one hundred weight. They are now the property of Bouchier Walton, Esq.—On the north-side the town callico-printing is carried on with great spirit. The wool-combing business is also carried on here still; but not in so extensive a manner as it was formerly.

The learned Dr. Joseph Hall, afterwards bishop of Exeter and Norwich, was minister of this parish; as was also Dr. Thomas Fuller, author of the Church History of Britain, the Worthies of England, &c. and who was so famous for the extraordinary strength of his memory.

About two miles from Waltham-abbey, in the road to Epping, is a beautiful seat, named WARLEYS, lately in the possession of Mr. Carter, and now belonging to his two daughters. The house is situated in a bottom; but the park and other objects about it rise to the view, and form a pleasing prospect.—Edward Parker, Esq; has also a good house about a quarter of a mile east from the town.

WEST-WALTHAM, or WALTHAM-CROSS.

This is a small town on the west side of the river Lea, in Middlesex and Hertfordshire. It is a post-town, and good thoroughfare in the Ware road, about twelve miles from London.

London. It has its name of Cross, from that erected here by order of King Edward I. in memory of its being one of the resting places for the corpse of his Queen, when she was brought from the north to be interred at Westminster. That princess's effigies are placed round the pillar with the arms of her consort, and those of her own, viz. England, Castile, Leon, and Poictou, which are still in part remaining, though greatly defaced.

E P P I N G.

This town lies east-north-east of Waltham-abbey, and is about sixteen miles from London. It is divided into two parts; namely, *Upland*, where the church is situated; and *Townside*, where the town stands. It consists chiefly of inns and public-houses, the shops being few in number, just sufficient to supply the town and neighbourhood with common necessaries. It is near a mile in length, extending almost due east and west. A market is held here weekly on Fridays, and its principal commodities are fowls and butter, it being particularly famous for the latter, much of which is carried from hence to London. The buildings in the town are but indifferent; and here is a church and a brick chapel, the latter in a miserable condition, at which and the church divine service is performed alternately. Here is a dissenting-meeting house, and also a Quakers-meeting. The church stands pleasantly on a rising ground, is of one pace with the chancel, and of an uncommon length. It has of late been repaired and beautified, and is extremely neat.

Copped Hall, or *Copt-Hall*, the seat of John Conyers, Esq; member for the county, is in the parish of Epping. This is an elegant and convenient modern edifice, and is very agreeably situated. The gardens belonging to it are well laid out, and here is a large park. In the old house here was a stately gallery 56 yards long, erected by Sir Thomas Heneage, which was blown down in November, 1639, by a violent hurricane. At this seat was formerly a chapel, wherein was placed the fine painted glass window from New-hall chapel, and which John Conyers, Esq; sold to the parishioners of St. Margaret's, Westminster, by whom it has been put up in the chancel of that church.

Epping-Forest, which is a royal chace, and which reaches many miles from the town of Epping towards London, was anciently called the Forest of Essex, and then of Waltham; and was granted by Edward the confessor to his favourite

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Randolph Pepper-king, afterwards called Peverell; who having a beautiful lady to his wife, William the conqueror fell in love with her, and had a son by her, called William Peverell.

C H E P I N G O N G A R.

This is a small town in the county of Essex, situated on the river Roding, eight miles from Epping, and twenty from London. It consists chiefly of one street of pretty good houses, but has been a market-town for many years, on which account here are some good inns. The market is kept weekly on Saturdays. The traffic of this town, except on market-days, is but trifling, and at those times is not very considerable. Here are two fairs annually, the one on Easter Tuesday, the other the day after the feast of St. Michael, both of which fairs are for toys and hiring of servants.

This place in old records was called *Ongar ad Castrum*, from a castle built here by Richard de Lucy, who was intrusted with the office of lieutenant of the kingdom in the absence of King Henry II. in Normandy*. This castle was situated on the top of an high artificial hill, and surrounded by a large moat; which, with several other moats, composed the fortification; but the castle growing ruinous, was taken down in queen Elizabeth's reign, and an handsome brick edifice erected in its room. But this building was demolished by Edward Alexander, Esq; who in 1744 erected instead of it a large handsome summer-house, embattled. It stands at a small distance north-east from the church, is surrounded by a deep and wide moat, and ascended by a steep winding walk, arched over most of the way with trees, shrubs, &c. The room is roofed by a beautiful dome leaded, the top of which is ascended by a pair of steps, and over the embattlement the spectator is presented with a beautiful prospect on all sides.

This place is supposed to have been of some note before the Saxons were masters here. The church is built partly of Roman brick; and several Roman foundations have been discovered in this parish, particularly in the church and church-yard.

* This Richard de Lucy was also sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1156, and constituted justice of England in 1162. The priory of Lesnes in Kent was of his founding, where he entered himself a canon regular, and died there in 1179.

At a little distance from hence is the parish of *Greensted*, wherein David Rebotier, Esq; has an handsome seat, called *Greensted-Hall*, which is situated a little way east from the church.—The church is a very uncommon antique building; for the walls are of timber, not framed, but trees split, or sawn asunder, and set into the ground.

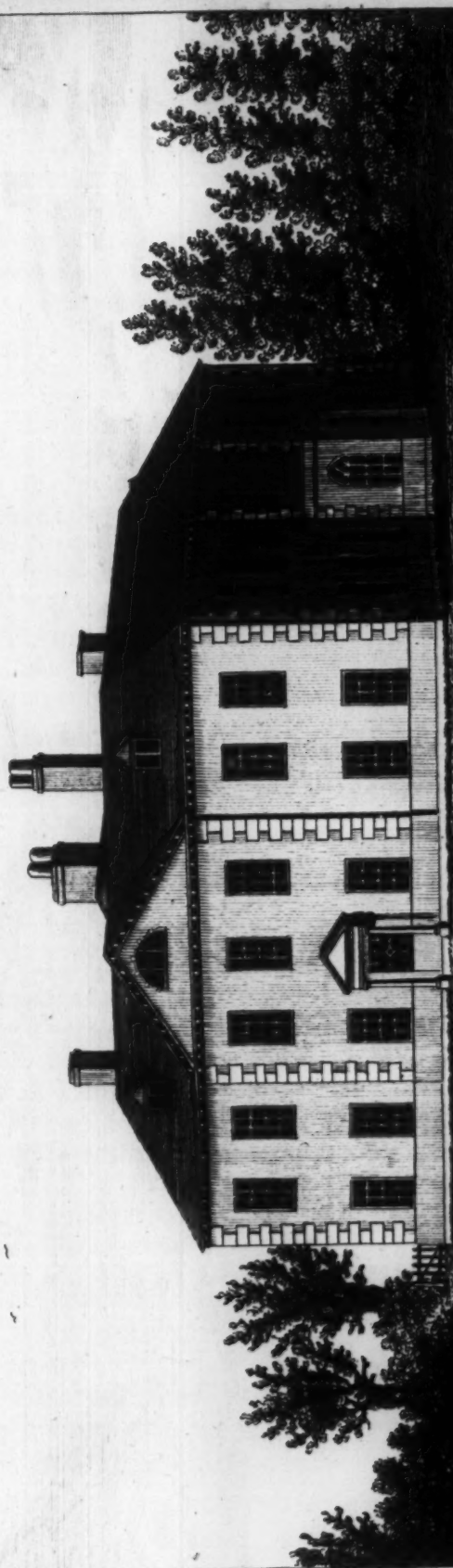
BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD.

This is a post-town, in Essex, about eighteen miles from London. It is situated pleasantly on a hill, affords a pleasing prospect to the inhabitants, and of late is greatly improved in its buildings. As it is on the high road from London to Harwich, it is a great thorough-fare, and has some good inns in it. One of these, the Crown Inn, deserves to be distinguished for its antiquity. Mr. Simonds, in his collections, says, he was informed by the master, who had writings in his possession to prove it, that it had been an inn for three hundred years with this sign; that a family, named Salmon, held it two hundred years; and that there had been eighty-nine owners, amongst which were an Earl of Oxford, and an Earl of Suffex.

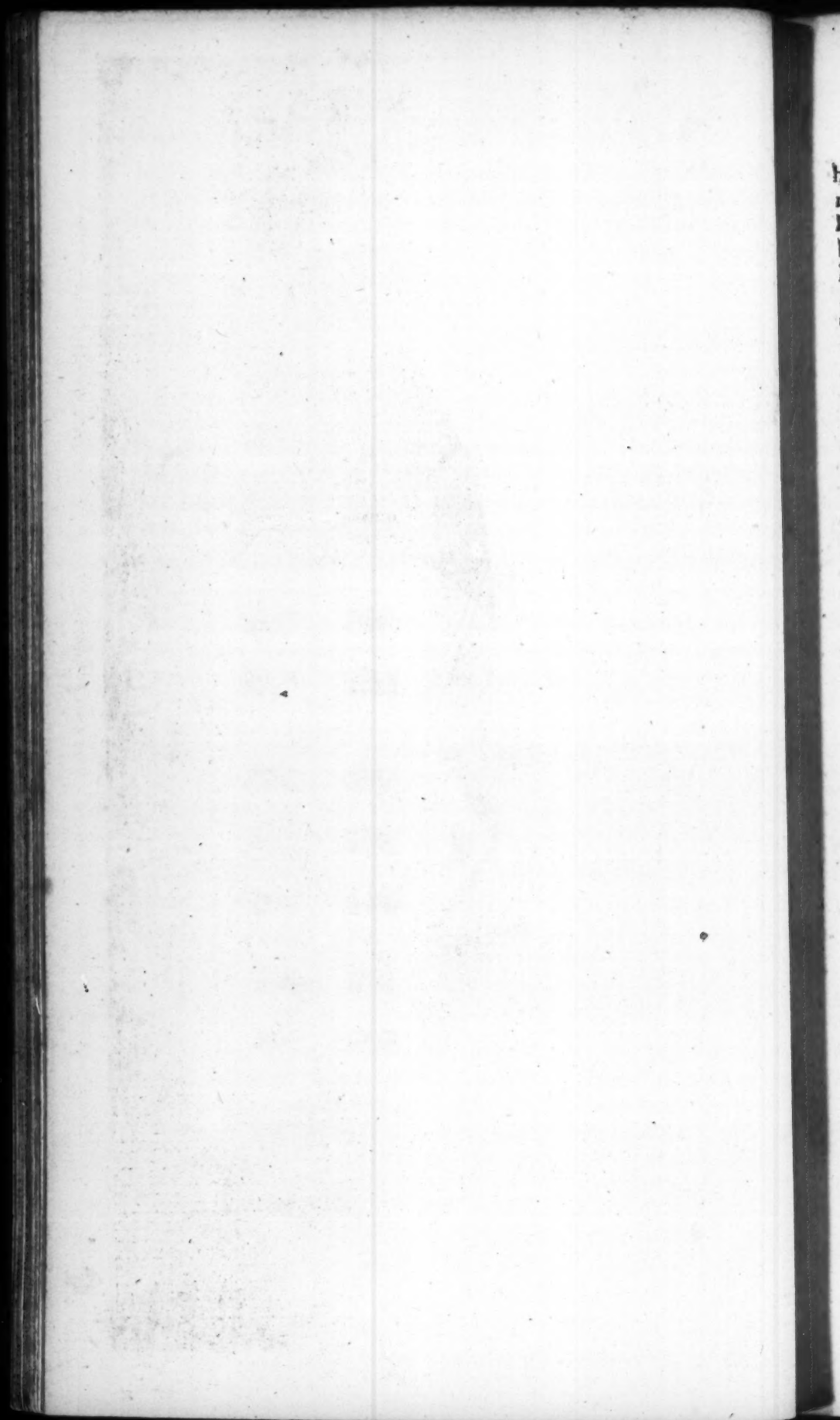
Here is a good market weekly on Thursdays, and two fairs yearly for cattle and horses; one on the 18th of July, and the other the 15th of October. Here is a grammar-school, which was founded in 1557, by Sir Anthony Brown; in which all boys of this parish, or any other parish within three miles of the school-house, are to be taught grammar-learning gratis. Sir Anthony also founded five alms-houses, for five single poor persons, three men and two women.

A chapel was founded at Brentwood about the year 1221, which was dedicated to Thomas à Becket; and the perquisites of the chaplain chiefly arose from travellers upon the road, and such as came out of devotion to *Saint Thomas*, as that ambitious and turbulent priest was stiled in an age of ignorance and superstition. From hence it arose, that a gate in this parish, in the way from Ongar, still retains the name of *Pilgrim's Hatch*. Divine service is now kept up in this chapel for the conveniency of the inhabitants of Brentwood, the parish church being near two miles distant.

Brentwood stands in the parish of *South Weald*, which is very extensive, and contains some very handsome gentlemen's seats. Sir Thomas Parker, late lord chief baron of the exchequer, but now retired from public business, has a pleasant seat here. Thomas Towers, Esq; lord of the manor, has



A View of Greenstead Hall in Essex, the Seat of David Rebother Esq.



has also a very elegant seat near the church, adorned with rich plantations, handsome gardens, a good park, &c. in which latter is built a prospect house, in the form of a tower, embattled, affording a most delightful view. The Hon. Capt. Hamilton has also an agreeable seat here. And on Weald Side Common is a seat called *Ditchley's*, the residence of George Nicholls, Esq; adjoining to which is the seat of Anthony Wright, Esq. At Pilgrim Hatch is *Dounsell's*, the seat of Francis Manby, Esq. Besides these, there are many very good houses, that cannot properly be called seats, but which are either the residence or retirement of families of considerable fortune.—On the London road is a bridge called *Puttal's*, supported by Thomas Towers, Esq; and at the bottom of Weald-side common is another bridge, called *Wright's*; through which bridges runs a rivulet, separating Havering and Romford from this parish.

South Weald church stands on an hill, from whence is a fine prospect. It is an handsome building, consisting of two paces, supported in the middle by five pillars of the Tuscan order. At the west end there is a strong tower, of considerable height, embattled, in which are five bells. This tower was built in the beginning of King Henry the Seventh's reign.

The Saxon word *Weald* signifies *Wood*, and this place is supposed to have been one of the first inhabited parts of Essex.—By the south-side of Weald-hall park there is a camp, inclosing about seventeen acres; it is circular, single ditched, and thought to have been a Roman summer camp, or *Castræ Exploratorum*.—There are horse-races every year on Watley-common, which is at a little distance from Brentwood.

HAVERING-AT-BOWER.

This place, which is about three miles from Romford, is said to have derived its name from the following marvellous story, which may amuse our readers, though we presume but few of them will give credit to it. We are told, that as the church of Clavering, in this county, was consecrating, and was to be dedicated to Christ and St. John the Evangelist, King Edward the Confessor riding that way, alighted, out of devotion, to be present at the consecration. During the procession, a *fair old man* came to the King, and begged alms of him, in the name of God, and St. John the Evangelist. The king having nothing else to give, as his almoner was not at hand, took the ring from his finger, and gave it the

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poor

poor man. Some years after, two English pilgrims having lost their way as they were travelling to the Holy Land, they saw a company cloathed in white, with two lights carried before them; and behind them came a *fair ancient man*. The pilgrims joining them, the old man enquired who they were, and whence they came. After hearing their story, he brought them into a fine city, where was a room furnished with all manner of dainties: when they had well refreshed themselves, and rested there all night, the old man set them again in the right way. And at parting, he told them, he was John the Evangelist: adding, as the Legend goes on: "Say ye unto Edward your King, that I greet him well by the token that he gave to me this ring with his own hands at the hallowing of my church, which ring ye shall deliver him again. And say ye to him, that he dispose his goods, for within six months he shall be in the joy of heaven with me, where he shall have his reward for his chastity, and for his good living." At their return home, the two pilgrims waited upon the king, who was then at this bower, and delivered to him the message, and the ring, from which circumstance this place is said to have received the name of Have-ring. This relation, however ridiculous, gained so good credit in that age, as to occasion the whole story to be wrought in basso relievo in the chapel at Westminster, where Edward the Confessor lies buried, on the back of the skreen that divides it from the altar. The statues of the king and the pilgrims are also over the courts of the king's-bench and common-pleas, in Westminster-hall; and over the gate going into Dean's-yard. His picture was also on the glass of the east window of the south isle of Romford chapel, with two pilgrims, and under it, *Johannes per peregrino misit Regis Edwardo*. A good picture of him is now on the glass of the chancel-window of that chapel; renewed in 1707. The ring pretended to have been given by him, as above, to St. John, was deposited among other reliques in his Abbey at Westminster.

This was anciently a retiring place for several of our Saxon kings: particularly of Edward the Confessor, who took great delight in it, on account of its gloomy and solitary aspect, it being at that time woody, and therefore he thought it suited well his private devotions. This place has been very productive of extraordinary stories; and accordingly the legend says, it abounded so with warbling nightingales, that they disturbed King Edward the Confessor in his devotions, inso-

much

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much that he earnestly prayed for their removal; since which time, according to many of the sage people of this neighbourhood, no nightingales have ever been heard to sing in the park, as in other places; but that many were heard without the pales.—Near the remains of the royal house stands *Havering-chapel*, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. It is a small building of one pace with the chancel, the whole tiled.—Besides the place of *Havering Bower*, here was another at *Pirgo*, which belonged to the queens of England; where they resided at their own conveniency, or perhaps during their widowhood, *Havering* being usually part of the queen's jointure.—Lord Archer is owner of the fine seat at *Pirgo*: the house is an ancient venerable structure, within a considerable park. Here is a small chapel belonging to this seat.

R O M F O R D.

This town is six miles from Brentwood, and twelve from London. It is pretty large, and consists chiefly of one street, near half a mile in length, at the upper part of which is held a market every Tuesday for live calves; on each Wednesday a general market, and in the winter-season, on Mondays, a market for live hogs. Here is a fair annually, upon Midsummer Day, for cattle and horses. About the middle of the town stands a good market-house, and a town-hall. This is a post-town, and the greatest thoroughfare in the county. Here is a chapel, which stands nearly in the center of the town, and is a spacious stone building. In Romford-street, near the turnpike, is a charity-school, which was erected by subscription in 1710. It is a neat brick building, in which forty boys and twenty girls are educated.

About half a mile out of Romford, on the road leading to Brentwood, stands *Geddy-Hall*, the seat of Richard Benyon, Esq; formerly governor of Fort St. George. It is a noble mansion, and is surrounded by a pleasant park and beautiful gardens, plentifully watered by a fine canal.

About four miles from Romford is the parish of *Cranham*, wherein General Oglethorpe, famous for settling the colony of Georgia, has a seat. The house, which is a large antique building, is named *Cranham-hall*. This place is supposed to have derived its name of *Cranham* from a resort of Cranes here, the hawking of which was an ancient sport. And if we were to judge from the bills of fare into which cranes came, and the price of provisions, remarked by our historians,

In the time of King Edward I. we must imagine the stomachs of the people of that fighting age to be of a strange tone. For when a goose sold for four-pence, a crane sold for twelve-pence; and King William Rufus is said to have turned off his major-domo, for setting before him a crane half-roasted.

In the parish of *Dagenham*, at the distance of fifteen miles from London, the late Henry Muilman, Esq; had an handsome seat. The building is of brick, spacious, surrounded by a park, and commanding an agreeable prospect.—*Dagenham Breach* was made here, upwards of fifty years ago; by the Thames, which overflowed one thousand acres of rich land; but, after near ten years inundation, during which the works were several times blown up, it was at last stopped by Capt. Perry, who had been employed several years in the Czar of Muscovy's works at Veronitza; but the expences attending this amounted to more than forty thousand pounds.

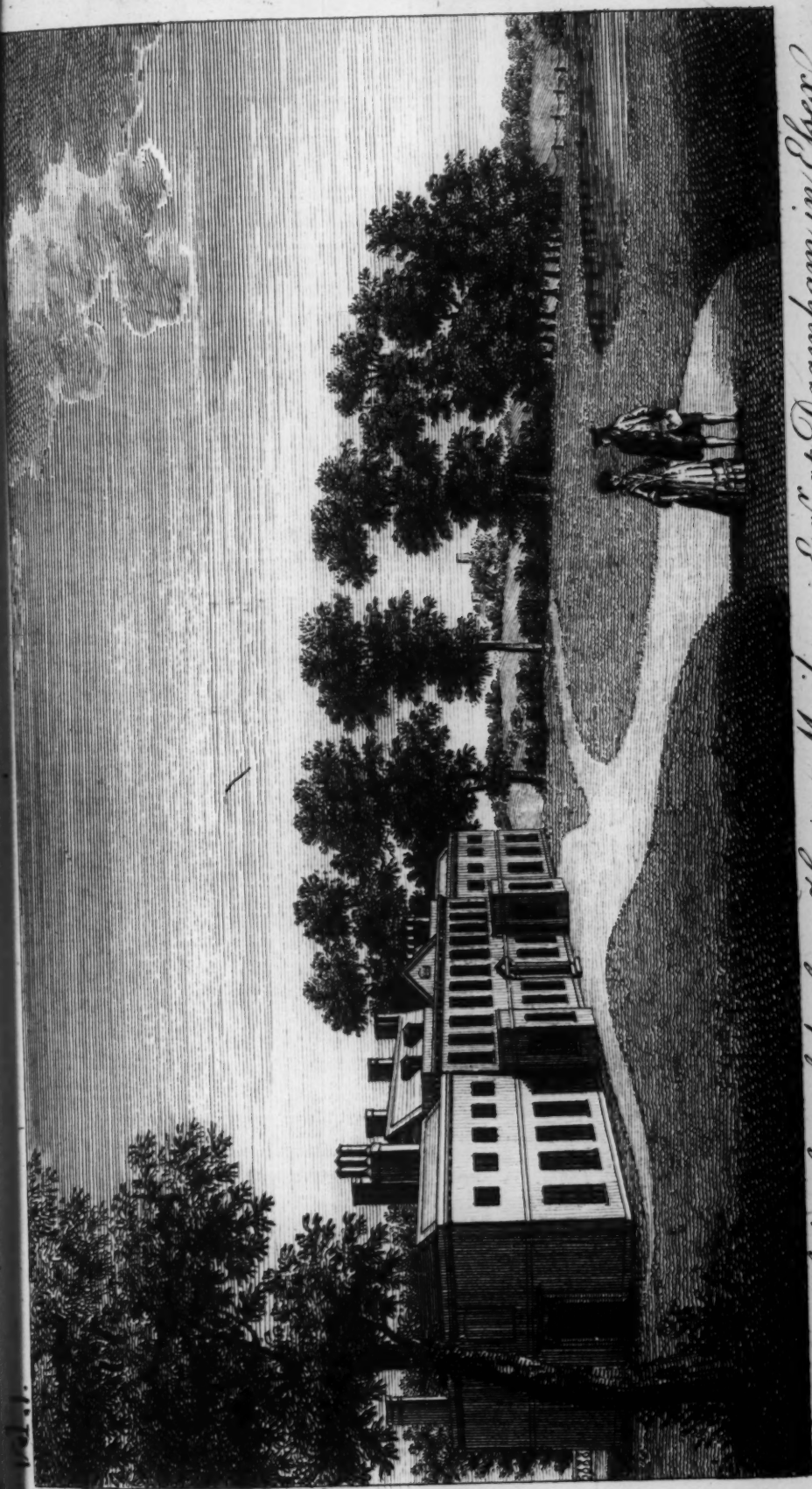
B E R K I N G.

This is the nearest market-town in the county of Essex to London, from which it is only eight miles distant, and seven from Romford. The town is of considerable extent, and chiefly inhabited by fishermen, whose boats, called smacks, lie at the mouth of the river Thames, from whence their fish is sent up to Billingsgate. The market is held on Saturdays; and a fair is held here annually on the 22d of October, for horses. It was to this place that King William the Conqueror retired, soon after his coronation, till he had erected forts in London to awe the inhabitants of that city.

At this place Erkenwald, the fourth bishop of London, founded the second nunnery of the Saxons in England*, in the year 666. It was of the order of St. Benedict, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburga, the first abbess, (sister of the founder) who, with her successor, was canonized. It stood on the north-side of the church-yard. One gate, and part of the wall is still remaining.

The manor of Berking, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, belonged to Sir William Hewett, who was lord-mayor of London in 1589, and concerning whom the following story

* Folkestone Nunnery was the first, which was founded thirty-six years before.



A View of the Seat of the late Henry Mulman Esq. at Dagenham in Essex.

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 53

is related. Sir William lived upon London-bridge, and had an infant-daughter. One of his maids playing with this child out of a window over the river Thames, by chance dropped her in, almost beyond expectation of being saved. A young gentleman, named Edward Osborne, then apprentice to Sir William, at this calamitous accident leaped in boldly, and saved the child. In memory of which deliverance, and in gratitude, her father afterwards bestowed her in marriage to the said Mr. Osborne, with a very great dowry. Several persons of quality courted the young lady, and particularly the Earl of Shrewsbury. But Sir William Hewett said, "Osborne saved her, and Osborne should enjoy her." This Mr. Osborne was ancestor to the present Duke of Leeds.

The parish of Berking is large, and so much improved, by lands recovered from the Thames and the river Roding, that the great and small tithes are computed at above 600*l.* a year.—A little beyond the town, towards Dagenham, stood a great old house, where the gunpowder plot is said to have been contrived.—About four miles north from Berking-church Charles Raymond, Esq; who was high sheriff of the county in 1771, has a fine seat, named *Valentines*, which has been termed a cabinet of curiosities. The house is one of the neatest, and best adapted of its size, of any modern one in the county: its ornaments are well chosen, and the grounds belonging to it laid out with great judgment and taste.—Bamber Gascoyne, Esq; has also a good house about a quarter of a mile south-east from the church, named *Biffrons*, which commands a fine prospect, and behind it is a pretty park.

L I T T L E I L F O R D.

The village of Little Ilford is three miles from Berking; it is but small, consisting only of one street, which on Sundays many citizens of London and others resort to for an airing; and the little traffic occasioned thereby is the chief support of its inhabitants.—Little Ilford church is small, but neat; and at the north-west corner of it, the Lethieuller family has erected a very neat room, about fifteen feet square, separated from the church by an iron gate. It has a fire place, and every convenience to accommodate the family when they attend divine service. The pavement is of free-stone, and beneath it is the family vault. Along the north-side of this room is a capital, supported by columns of the Doric order; it is ascended by two steps; and between the columns is a
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very neat altar-tomb of black and white marble, supporting a beautiful marble urn of various colours. This monument is in memory of John Lethieuller, Esq. There are several other monuments here to persons of the same family, but the only one that we shall particularly mention, is that erected to the memory of Smart Lethieuller, Esq; a gentleman much distinguished for his skill in antiquities: and we shall insert the inscription on his tomb, because it is remarkable for propriety and elegance. It is as follows:

In memory of

SMART LETHIEULLER, Esq;

A Gentleman of polite Literature and elegant Taste,

An Encourager of Art and ingenious Artists,

A studious Promoter of Literary Enquiries;

A Companion, and a Friend; of learned Men;

Judiciously versed in the Science of Antiquity,

And richly possessed of the curious Productions of Nature.

But

Who modestly desired no other Inscription on his

Tomb, than what he had made the Rule of his Life.

To do justly,

To love Mercy,

And to walk humbly with his God.

He was born Nov. 3, 1701.

And deceased without issue Aug. 27, 1760.

The most elegant simplicity runs through every part of this place, which is so well calculated to inspire serious contemplation, that few edifices of the kind are equal to it.

L E Y T O N.

This is a straggling village by the river Lea, about six miles from London. There are several handsome seats in the parish, belonging to wealthy citizens and other gentlemen, particularly Goring-house, also called the Forest-House, which is loftily situated fronting Epping-forest, and is the property of Samuel Bosanquet, Esq. The manor-house of Leyton, which is a fine seat, is the property of Thomas Blaydon, Esq. About a quarter of a mile north-east from the church Thomas Oliver, Esq; has a beautiful seat, which formerly belonged to Sir Fisher Tench. It is a modern structure, adorned with large and delightful gardens, with plantations, walks, groves, mounts, and canals, stocked with fish and fowl. The seat of Henry More, Esq; near half a mile west from the church,

is also very agreeably situated. The house is large and handsome, and the gardens and decorations belonging to it are suitable.

One part of this parish is called *Leyton-stone*, which is in a pleasant and healthy situation; and the number of inhabitants here being greatly increased, a chapel of ease has been built for their convenience.—It is somewhat singular that the parish of Walthamstow should have a piece of ground about fifty yards wide, which runs directly in a straight line through this parish.—Here seems to have been a Roman villa, or some summer camp or station; for between the manor-house and the canal, where the garden now is, in digging were found old foundations, with a great many Roman bricks, intermixed with others, and several medals. And in enlarging the horse-pond, huge foundations were discovered six feet under ground; and a large arched gate with mouldings nine or ten feet high, and five or six broad, the top of which was also six feet under ground. The walls were four feet thick, or more. A very large urn, with ashes and bones, was taken up in the church-yard in digging a deep grave. Several urns, with ashes in them, have been also found on the south-side of Blind-lane, near Rockholts, in digging for gravel.

There are several very handsome monuments in Leyton church and church-yard.—That indefatigable antiquarian, Mr. John Strype, was vicar of this parish.—The famous Sir Thomas Roe, ambassador to the Great Mogul, the Grand Signior, and several European princes, in the reign of King James I. was born in this parish. In this great man, the accomplishments of the scholar, the gentleman, and the statesman, were eminently united. During his residence in the Mogul's court, he zealously promoted the trading interest of this kingdom, for which the East India company is indebted to him to this day. In his embassy to the Grand Signior, he collected many valuable Greek and oriental manuscripts, which he presented to the Bodleian library, to which he left his valuable collection of coins. The fine Alexandrian M.S. of the Greek Bible was procured by his means.

W E S T - H A M.

This parish, which joins to Leyton, is four miles distant from London. It includes *Stratford*, anciently surnamed *Langthorne*, and is parted from Middlesex on the south, and from St. Mary Stratford-le-Bow, by the river Lea, over which there are five bridges in this parish. Bow-bridge, which is
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one of them, received the name of *Bow*, or *arched*, bridge, because it was the first arched stone bridge in this county. The occasion of its being built is thus related. The ancient road from this county to London was by *Old Ford*; that is, through the ford there without a bridge. But that passage being difficult and dangerous, and many persons losing their lives, or being thoroughly wetted, which happened to be the case with Maud, queen to King Henry I. she turned the road from Old Ford to the place where it is now, and made the causeways, and built the bridges at her own charge. And for the keeping of them in repair, she gave to the abbess of Berking certain manors, and a mill called *Wiggin-mill*.

The parish of *West-ham* is divided into four wards; namely, *Churd-ward*, *Stratford Langthorns*, *Plaistow-ward*, and that of *Upton*. Its situation is not high, nor yet very low; but in general healthy; and at the lower parts of *Plaistow* affords a beautiful view of the river *Thames*, and the county of *Kent* for many miles.—This parish is divided from the county of *Kent* by the river *Thames*.—From its vicinity to the metropolis, and from the conveniency which it has of water-carriage, a number of wealthy merchants, traders, and industrious artists have chosen it for their residence; by which means of late years the buildings have been much increased; particularly by the addition of two small new-built hamlets, if they may be thus called, on the forest-side. These are *Maryland-point* and the *Gravel-pits*; one facing the road to *Epping*, and the other that to *Chelmsford*. *Maryland point* is a cluster of houses near *Stratford*: the first of them were erected by a merchant, who had got a fortune in that colony, from whence they took their name.—*Stratford*, (i. e. the street at the ford,) is a very large and considerable hamlet in this parish; and distinguished from the other adjoining, *Stratford at Bow*, lying on the west-side of *Bow-bridge*, in the county of *Middlesex*, by the appellation of *Langton*, or *Langthorn*. *Plaistow hamlet* lies south of the church, and *Upton*, north of the same.

About half a mile south-south-west from the church are the remains of *Stratford-abbey*, once a considerable monastery here, and part of the old gate of which is still standing. This monastery was founded about the year 1134, by *William Montfichet*, for the monks of the *Cistercian* order, and dedicated to the virgin *Mary*, and *All Saints*. Its demesnes in this parish comprehended 1500 acres.—*West-Ham church*, which is dedicated to *All Saints*, is large; both church and chancel having

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having north and south isles: there are several monuments in it, two of which are ancient.

E A S T - H A M.

The situation of this parish is rather low, and its soil gravelly, except in the marshes. Several wealthy citizens and other gentlemen reside in it, on which account it has several good houses in it.—A tradition prevails here, that the house called *Green-street*, (late the seat of Sir Nicholas Gerard, and now belonging to Mrs. Whiteside) was once the habitation of an Earl of Westmoreland, and probably of Lady Latimer.—Tradition likewise says, that queen Anna Boleyn was confined in a tower still standing near the said house.—One of the most remarkable particulars here is, the spring called *Miller's well*, the water of which is esteemed to be extremely good, and has not ever been known to be frozen, or to have varied in its height, either in summer or winter.—A part of Kent, in the parish of Woolwich, lies on this side the river, and divides this parish from the Thames.

D E P T F O R D.

This is a large and populous town in the county of Kent, about four miles and an half from London. It was anciently called West Greenwich; and is said to have received its present name, from its having a deep ford over the little river Ravensbourn, near its influx into the Thames, where it has now a bridge. It is divided into upper and lower Deptford, which contain together two churches, several meeting houses, and about 1900 houses. It is most remarkable for its noble dock, where the royal navy was formerly built and repaired; till it was found more convenient to build the larger ships at Woolwich, and other places, where there is a greater depth of water: but notwithstanding this, the yard is enlarged to more than double its former dimensions, and a vast number of hands are constantly employed. It has a wet dock of two acres for ships, and another of an acre and an half, with vast quantities of timber and other stores, and extensive buildings, as store-houses, and offices, for the use of the place; besides dwelling-houses for those officers who are obliged to live upon the spot, in order to superintend the works. Here the royal yachts are generally kept; and near the dock is the seat of Sir John Evelyn, called Says Court, where that justly celebrated Prince, Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, resided for some time; and in this yard completed

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his knowledge and skill in the practical part of naval architecture.

In this town are two hospitals, one of which was incorporated by King Henry VIII. in the form of a college, for the use of seamen, and is commonly called *Trinity House* of Deptford Strond: this contains twenty-one houses, and is situated near the church. The other, called *Trinity Hospital*, has thirty-eight houses fronting the street. This is a very handsome edifice, and has large gardens well kept belonging to it. Though this last is the finest structure, yet the other has the preference, on account of its antiquity; and as the Brethren of the Trinity hold their corporation by that house, they are obliged at certain times to meet there for business. Both these houses are for decayed pilots, or masters of ships, or their widows; the men being allowed twenty shillings, and the women sixteen shillings a month.

Trinity House was founded in the year 1515, by Sir Thomas Spert, Knight, commander of the great ship *Henry Grace de Dieu*, and comptroller of the Navy, for the regulation of seamen, and the convenience of ships and mariners on our coast, and incorporated, as we before observed, by Henry VIII. who confirmed to them not only the antient rights and privileges of the company of mariners of England, but their several possessions at Deptford; which together with the grants of Queen Elizabeth, and King Charles II. were also confirmed by letters patent of the first of James II. in 1685. The master, wardens, assistants, and elder brethren of this corporation, are by charter invested with the power of examining the masters of his Majesty's ships, and also the mathematical children of Christ's hospital; of appointing pilots to conduct ships in and out of the river Thames; and of amercing all such as shall presume to act as masters of ships of war, or pilots, without their approbation. It is their business also to settle the several rates of pilotage, and erect light-houses, and other sea-marks, upon the several coasts of the kingdom, for the security of navigation; to which light-houses all ships pay one halfpenny a ton. They are likewise empowered to grant licences to poor seamen, not free of the city, to row on the river Thames for their support, in the intervals of sea-service, or when past going to sea; and to prevent aliens from serving on board English ships, without their licence, upon the penalty of 5*l.* for each offence. They are likewise authorized to punish seamen for desertion, or mutiny, in the merchants service; and to hear and determine the complaints

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plaints of officers and seamen in the merchants service; but subject to an appeal to the Lords of the Admiralty, or the judge of the Court of Admiralty. To this company belongs the ballast Office, for clearing and deepening the river Thames, by taking from thence a sufficient quantity of ballast, for the supply of all ships that sail out of that river; in which service sixty barges with two men in each are constantly employed, and all ships that take in ballast pay them 1s. a ton, for which it is brought to the ships sides.—We have been the more particular in enumerating the powers, and the business, of this corporation, because its authority and powers are of so extensive a nature, and of so much importance to us as a maritime state. We shall, therefore, further observe, that there are annually relieved by this company about 3000 poor seamen, their widows, and orphans; and this, as it is said, at the expence of about 6000*l*. They meet frequently at their house in Water-lane, Thames-street, generally on Wednesdays and Saturdays; but their courts are not constantly fixed to a set time. Their house in Water-lane has been twice burnt down, once at the fire of London, and the last time in the year 1718. Among the curiosities preserved in the hall of this building, is a flag taken from the Spaniards by the famous Sir Francis Drake, whose picture is also there; a large and exact model of a ship entirely rigged, and two large globes; and in the parlour are five large drawings curiously performed by the pen, of several engagements at sea in the reign of Charles the Second.

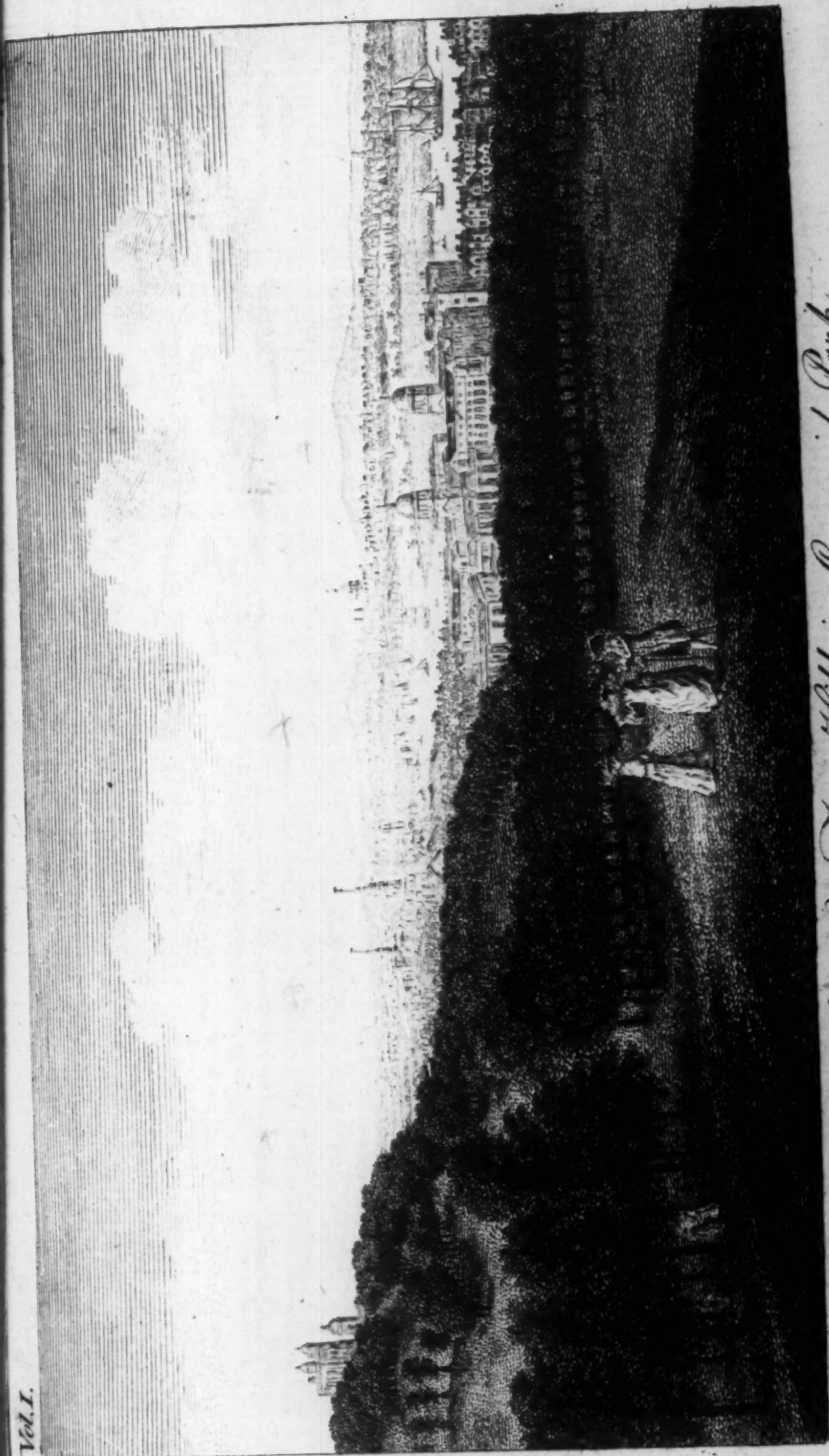
GREENWICH.

This town, which is chiefly famous for its fine hospital and park, is said to contain upwards of 1300 houses. Its parish church, which has been lately rebuilt by the commissioners for erecting the fifty new churches, is a very handsome structure, dedicated to St. Alphage, Archbishop of Canterbury, who is said to have been slain by the Danes in the year 1012, on the spot where the church now stands. There is a college at the end of the town, fronting the Thames, for the maintenance of twenty decayed old housekeepers, twelve out of Greenwich, and eight who are to be alternately chosen from Snettisham and Castle Rising in Norfolk. This is called the Duke of Norfolk's College, though it was founded, and endowed, in 1613, by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, the Duke of Norfolk's brother, and by him committed to the care of the mercers company. There is a chapel belong-

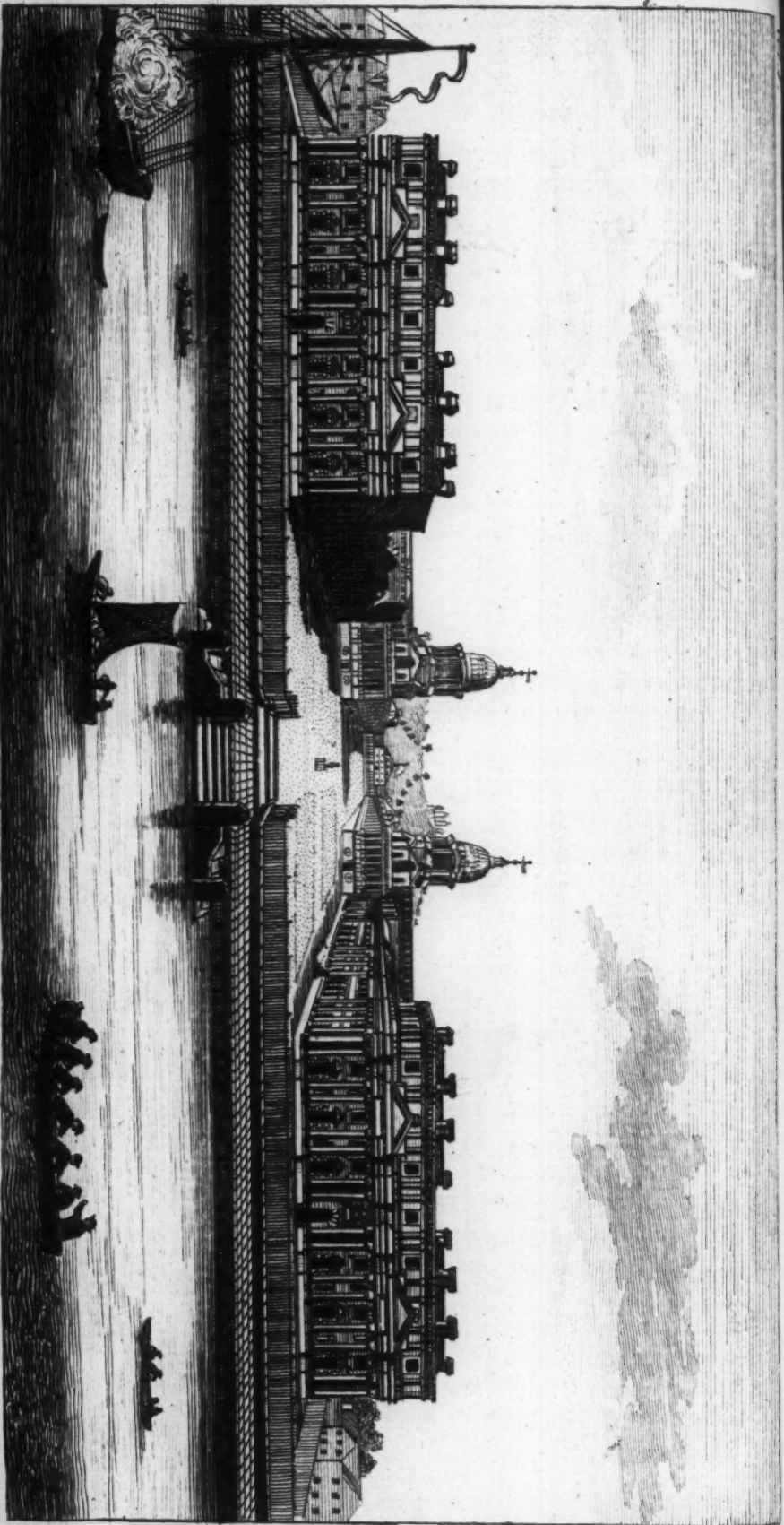
ing to this College, in which the Earl's body is laid, which as well as his monument, was removed hither a few years ago, from the chapel of Dover castle, of which he was constable. In the year 1560, Mr. John Lambard, author of the *Perambulation of Kent*, also built and founded an hospital here, for twenty poor persons, called Queen Elizabeth's College. This is said to be the first hospital founded by an English Protestant. There are likewise two charity-schools in this parish, one founded by Sir William Boreman, and the other by Mr John Roan. A market was erected in this town in the year 1737, the direction of which is in the governors of the Royal Hospital, to which the profits arising from it were appropriated. The market days are Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Greenwich has been the residence of several of our Monarchs. King Henry VIII. and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth were born here; and that excellent young Monarch, Edward VI. died here. The palace was first erected by Humphry, Duke of Gloucester, who named it *Placentia*. King Edward IV. bestowed considerable sums of money in enlarging and beautifying it, in which he was followed by King Henry VII. But it was completed by Henry VIII. who often kept his Christmas, and other great festivals, at this place, with magnificent jousts and tournaments: and the ground, which was called the Tilt-yard, is the spot on which the East wing of the Royal Hospital is built. But this palace being afterwards suffered to run to ruin, was pulled down by King Charles II. who began another, a most magnificent edifice, and lived to see the first wing finished. But this was afterwards converted into a part of the Royal Hospital: and that which is properly the palace here now, is an edifice of no great extent, and is at present converted into apartments for the governor of the Hospital, and the ranger of the park.

The park is well stocked with deer, and affords a noble and delightful view of the Hospital, the river Thames, and the city of London. This park was enlarged by King Charles II. who walled it round, planted it, and caused a Royal observatory to be erected on the top of the steep of the hill. This edifice his Majesty erected for the use of the celebrated Mr. John Flamsteed, and it still retains the name of that eminent astronomer. King Charles likewise furnished it with mathematical instruments for astronomical observations, and a deep dry well for observing the stars in the day time.



A View from One-Tree Hill in Greenwich Park.



Greenwich Hospital.

time.—This park is much resorted to in the Easter and Whitsun holidays, by young men and women from London and the neighbourhood, who divert themselves by running down the hills, and other rural sports.

The *Royal Hospital* at Greenwich is so magnificent a structure, that it can scarcely be taken for any thing less than the palace of a great Monarch. Indeed, the wing which King Charles II. designed for the Palace, is now the first wing of the hospital towards London. For King William III. being very desirous of promoting the commerce, navigation, and naval strength of this kingdom, by inviting great numbers of his subjects to betake themselves to the sea, gave this noble palace, and several other edifices, with a considerable spot of ground, for the use of those English seamen and their children, who by age, wounds, or other accidents, should be disabled from farther service at sea; and for the widows and children of such as were slain at sea, fighting against the enemies of their country. King William also by his letters patent, in 1694, appointed commissioners for the better carrying on his public-spirited and laudable design, in which he desired the assistance of his subjects, as the necessity of his affairs did not permit him to advance so considerable a sum towards this work as he desired, and as was requisite for the purpose. In compliance with this request, many benefactions were made to this noble charity, both in that and the succeeding reigns; which, according to the tables hung up at the entrance of the hall, amount to 58,209l. And afterwards the estate of the Earl of Derwentwater, which was forfeited by that Nobleman's being concerned in the rebellion in 1715, and which amounted to 6000l. per annum, was given by Parliament to this hospital. The first range had cost King Charles II. 36,000l. and another was ordered to be built on the same model. This has been completed with equal magnificence, and the whole structure entirely finished.

The front to the Thames consists of these two ranges of stone buildings, with the Governor's house at the back part in the center, behind which the park, well planted with trees, rises with a noble ascent. These buildings, between which is a large area, perfectly correspond with each other, and each range is terminated by a very noble dome. In each front to the Thames, two ranges of coupled Corinthian columns, finely wrought, support their pediments, and the same order is continued in pilasters along the building. In the center of each part,

part, between these ranges of Corinthian columns, is the door, which is of the Doric order. The buildings which are continued from those of which we have just been speaking, and which face the area, correspond with them, though in a more fine and elegant manner. In the center of both is a range of columns supporting a pediment, and at each corner a range of Corinthian pilasters. The front is rusticated, and there are two series of windows. The domes at the end, which are 120 feet high, are supported on coupled columns, as are the porticoes below; and under one of these is the chapel, which is adorned on the inside with the utmost elegance and beauty. On the sides of the gate which opens to these buildings from the park, are placed a large celestial and terrestrial globe; and in the center of the area is fixed on a pedestal, a statue of our late excellent Monarch, King George II.

The Hall of this Hospital, which is very noble, is finely painted by Sir James Thornhill. At the upper end of it are represented, in an alcove, the late Princess Sophia, King George I. King George II. Queen Caroline, the Queen Dowager of Prussia, Frederic, Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Cumberland, and the five Princesses, the daughters of his late Majesty. On the cieling over the alcove are Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark; and on the cieling of the Hall are King William and Queen Mary, with several fine emblematical figures. All strangers who see this hall pay two-pence each, and this income is applied to the support of the mathematical school, for the sons of sailors.

In the year 1705, an hundred disabled seamen were the first that were received into this hospital; but it at present contains near two thousand old or disabled seamen, and an hundred boys, the sons of seamen, who are instructed in navigation, and bred up for the service of the royal navy; but there are no out-pensioners, as at Chelsea. Each of the mariners has a weekly allowance of seven loaves, weighing sixteen ounces each; three pounds of beef; two of mutton; a pint of pease; a pound and a quarter of cheese; two ounces of butter; fourteen quarts of beer; and one shilling a week tobacco money. The tobacco money of the boatswains is 2s. 6d. a week each; that of their mates 1s. 6d. and that of the other officers in proportion to their rank. Besides which each common pensioner is completely clothed once in two years.

For the better support of this hospital, every seaman in the Royal

Royal Navy, and in the service of the merchants, pays 6d. a month. This is stopped out of the pay of all sailors, and delivered in at the fixpenny receiver's Office on Tower-hill. And therefore a seaman who can produce an authentic certificate of his being disabled, and rendered unfit for the sea-service, by defending any ship belonging to British subjects, or in taking any ship from the enemy, may be admitted into this hospital, and receive the same benefit from it, as if he had been in the immediate service of the government. The hospital has about an hundred Governors, composed of the Nobility, great Officers of state, and persons in considerable posts under the King.

On the south side of Greenwich lies *Blackheath*, a large plain so called from the blackness of its soil. It is much admired for the beauty of its situation, and its excellent air; and has been rendered memorable by being the theatre of several remarkable transactions. It was here the Danish army lay a considerable time encamped in the year 1011, and it was here that the famous Wat Tyler, the Kentish rebel, mustered 100,000 men. Jack Cade also, who stiled himself John Mortimer, and laid claim to the crown, pretending that he was kinsman to the Duke of York, encamped on this heath for a month together, with a large body of rebels, which he had gathered together in this and the neighbouring counties, in 1451. And the following year King Henry VI. pitched his Royal pavilion here, having assembled troops to withstand the force of his cousin, Edward, Duke of York, who was afterwards King Edward IV. And here against that King did the bastard Falconbridge likewise encamp. And in 1497, the Lord Audley, Flemmock, an Attorney, and Joseph the Blacksmith, encamped on this place, in the rebellion they raised against King Henry VII. And here that politic and warlike Prince routed them, killing above 2000 on the spot, and taking about 14000 prisoners.

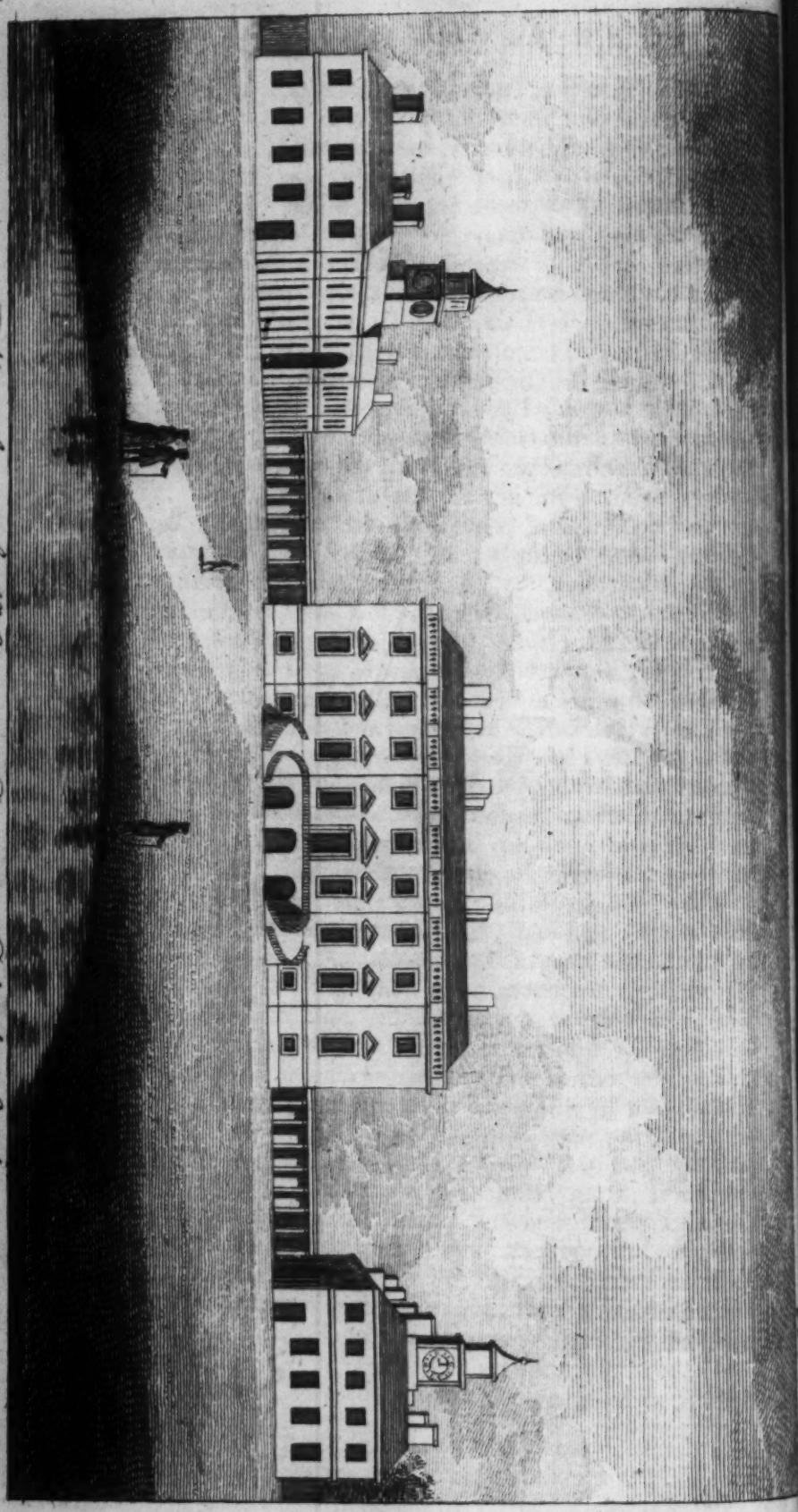
In 1415, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, with 400 citizens in scarlet, and with red and white hoods on, came to Blackheath, where they met that victorious Prince, King Henry the Vth, who was just returned from France, after the famous battle of Agincourt; and from Blackheath they conducted his Majesty to London. And in 1474, the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen, attended by 500 citizens, also met King Edward IV. here, on his return from France. It appears also to have been usual formerly to meet foreign Princes,

and other persons of high rank, on Blackheath, on their arrival in England. On the 21st of December, 1411, Maurice, Emperor of Constantinople, who came to solicit assistance against the Turks, was met here with great magnificence by King Henry IV. And in 1416, the Emperor Sigismund was met here, and from hence conducted in great pomp to London. In 1518, the Lord-Admiral of France, and the Archbishop of Paris, both Ambassadors from the French King, with above 1200 attendants, were met here by the Admiral of England, and above 500 gentlemen. And the following year Cardinal Campejus, the Pope's legate, being attended hither by the gentlemen of Kent, was met by the Duke of Norfolk, and many Noblemen and Prelates of England; and here in a tent of cloth of gold, he put on his Cardinal's robes richly ermined, and from hence rode to London. And here also King Henry VIII. met the Princess Anne of Cleves, in very great state and pomp, and was soon after married to her.

On the East-side of Blackheath stands *Morden-College*, erected for the support of poor decayed Merchants, by Sir John Morden, Bart. a Turkey-merchant, several years before his death, which happened in the year 1708. It consists of a large brick building, with two small wings, strengthened at the corners with stone rustic. The principal entrance, which is in the center, is decorated with Doric columns, festoons, and a pediment on the top, over which rises a turret, with a dial; and from the dome, which is supported by scrolls, rises a ball and fane. To this entrance there is an ascent by a flight of circular steps; and having ascended them, and passed through this part of the building, we enter an inner square, surrounded with piazzas. The chapel is neatly wainscotted, and has a costly altar piece; and it has a burying-place adjoining, for the members of the college. The founder, by his own desire, was buried in a vault under the communion table of the chapel. Sir John Morden erected his college at a small distance from his own habitation, in a place called Great Stone Field, and endowed it, after his Lady's decease, with his whole real, copyhold, and personal estate, to the value of about 1300l. per annum. He placed in this hospital twelve decayed Turkey merchants in his life-time; but, after his decease, the Lady Morden, finding that the share allotted her by Sir John's last will, was not sufficient for her decent support, some parts of the estate not answering so well

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The Seat of J. Gregory Page at Blackheath.



well as had been expected, she was obliged to reduce the number to four. But upon her death the whole estate coming to the college, the number was encreased, and there are at this time thirty five poor gentlemen; and the number not being limited, it is to be increased as the estate will afford; for the building will conveniently hold forty. The treasurer is allowed 4*l.* a year; and the chaplain, who reads prayers twice a day, and preaches twice every Sunday, had at first a salary of 30*l.* per annum, which the Lady Morden doubled at her death. The present chaplain is the Rev. Mr. Moses Brown, author of the Sunday Thoughts, Piscatory Eclogues, and other pieces. Lady Morden was in several respects a benefactress to the college, and as she put up her husband's statue in a niche, over the gate, the trustees put up hers in another niche, adjoining to that of her husband. The treasurer, chaplain, and pensioners, are obliged to reside in the college; and, except in case of sickness, no other persons are to reside, live, or lodge there; but no person can be admitted as a pensioner, who cannot make it appear that he is upwards of sixty years of age. The pensioners have each 20*l.* a year, and at first wore gowns, with the founder's badge; but this badge has not been worn for some years. They have a common table in the hall to eat and drink together at meals; and each has a convenient apartment, with a cellar. Seven Turkey merchants have the direction of this hospital, and the nomination of the persons to be admitted into it; to them the treasurer is accountable, and whenever any of these die, the surviving trustees chuse others in their stead.

There are several noblemen's and gentlemen's seats on Blackheath; and in particular, those of the Earl of Chesterfield, and the Earl of Dartmouth. And not far from Morden College is a noble house built by Sir Gregory Page, Bart. This is a very magnificent edifice, built in the modern taste, consisting of a basement, state, and attic story. The wings contain the offices and stables, which are joined to the body of the house by a colonade. It stands in the midst of a park; with a large piece of water before it. The back front has an Ionic portico of four columns, but having no pediment does not make so agreeable a figure as might be wished. This is one of the finest seats in England belonging to a private gentleman; and the gardens, park, and country around, render it a most delightful seat: yet this fine edifice was begun, raised, and covered, in the space of eleven months. It is adorned with many capital paintings; among which are the following;

I

Sampson

Sampson and Dalilah, by Vandyke; Juno and Ixion, by Rubens; Rubens and his mistress, by Rubens himself; David and Abigail, by Rubens; the woman taken in Adultery, by Paul Veronese; Moses and Pharaoh's daughter, by the same; a counsellor, his wife, and daughter, by Titian; and a Venus, Cupid, and satyrs, by Nich. Poussin.

Two fairs are held on Blackheath annually, one on the 12th of May, and another on the 11th of October, for bullocks, horses, and toys.

On the south-side of Blackheath, and west of Sir Gregory Page's park, lies the pleasant village of Lee; at the east end of which, next Lee Green, is a pleasant house and gardens of Henry Pelham, Esq; and in the street of Lee are the houses of the honourable Henry Roper and of David Papilion, Esq; and of several other persons of fashion; and on the north side of the street, is an old seat of the Boone family, with the remains of a grove, and a pleasant piece of water in the ground adjoining. The strait road from London to Maidstone is through Lee village. Between the parish of Lee, Eltham and Chislehurst, is an hamlet called Modingham, in which is a small seat of Lord Apsey, now lord chancellor, with pleasant grounds about it; the beauty of the whole is owing to his lordship's improvements; and here is also a very old mansion which belonged to the ancient family of the Stoddards.

Between the village of Lee, and the summit of the hill, next Blackheath, are the elegant gardens and pleasure grounds belonging to the villa of the late Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. now, or lately inhabited by Harry Verelst, Esq; some time governor of Bengal. The house is not large, but hath a very handsome apartment upon the first floor, towards the gardens and pleasure grounds; and the prospects from these rooms to Shooter's hill, Eltham, and Lee village, and into Sir Gregory Page's beautiful grounds and park, with the woods of Greenwich park skirting the view to the north, are most picturesque and beautiful. The front of the house commands the Dulwich hills, with Lewisham church placed in the very center of the view below them. On the summit of the hill next the heath stands the ancient church of Lee, very small. The churchyard is neat, and much ornamented with costly monuments of ~~statuary~~ and black marble. The great astronomer Dr. Edmund

Hal-

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Halley lies buried here under a plain table tomb, with an inscription of some length in Latin. In the church, on the north of the communion table, is a stately arched monument of alabaster, supported with columns of black marble of the Corinthian order. The rectory house, and that of Thomas Edlyne, Esq; on the eminence near the church, command from every side of them very pleasing views, the adjacent grounds being highly improved, and the near and distant prospects enriched with seats, farm-houses, towns, and villages: the Kentish and Dulwich hills in the front, and Blackheath and Greenwich park behind; with an extensive view, over London and Westminster, of the Middlesex hills, which bound the horizon to the north west.

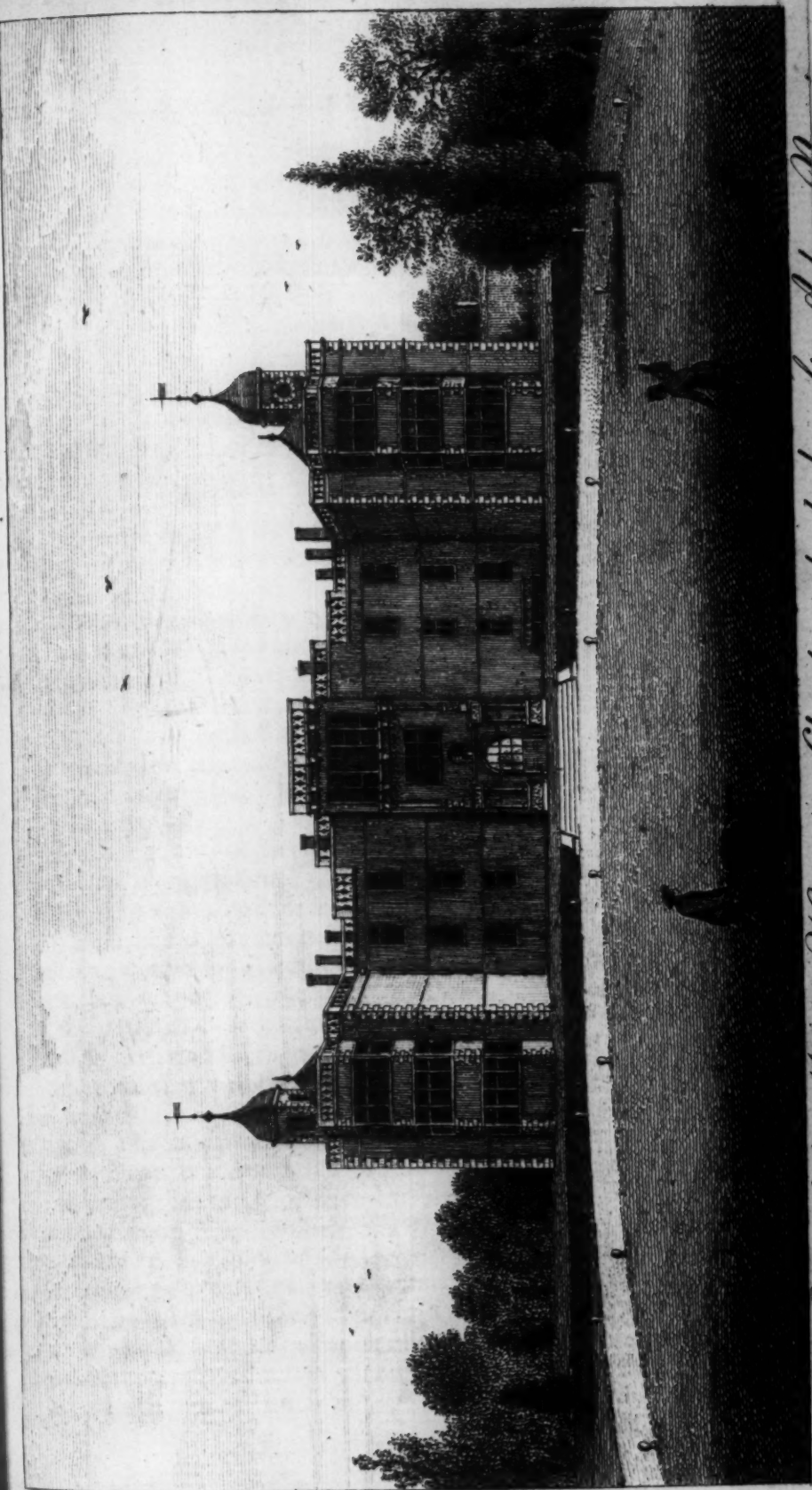
Shooter's Hill, which is near Blackheath, was formerly used as a butt for archers, and was in great request among the neighbouring people, till King Henry the VIIIth's time; from whence some say it took its name. But others tell us, though this appears less probable, that it received its name from the frequent robberies that were committed here. It was common, it is said, for thieves to lay lurking in the woods about here, in order to shoot passengers, and then rifle them. And in the sixth year of King Richard II. an order was made for enlarging the high road here, according to the statute of King Edward the Ist. And King Henry IV. granted leave to Thomas Chapman, to cut down and sell the wood here, that it might not be an harbour for thieves; and to lay out the money raised thereby, for the improvement of the highways. And in July, 1739, a very good design was begun to be put in execution on Shooter's Hill, a number of hands being employed in cutting a new road, wide enough for three carriages to pass a-breast, on the eastern descent of the hill, which was formerly so narrow, that it was impossible for a passenger, if way-laid, to escape falling into a ruffian's hands, which was the cause of many robberies here.

King Henry VIII. and his Queen Katharine, once came in very great splendor, on a May day, from Greenwich to Shooter's Hill; and here they were received by 200 archers clad all in green, with one personating Robin Hood as their captain, who first shewed the King the skill of his archers in shooting, and then leading the ladies into the wood, gave them a fine entertainment of venison and wine, in green arbours, and booths adorned with fine pageants, and all the efforts of romantic gallantry.

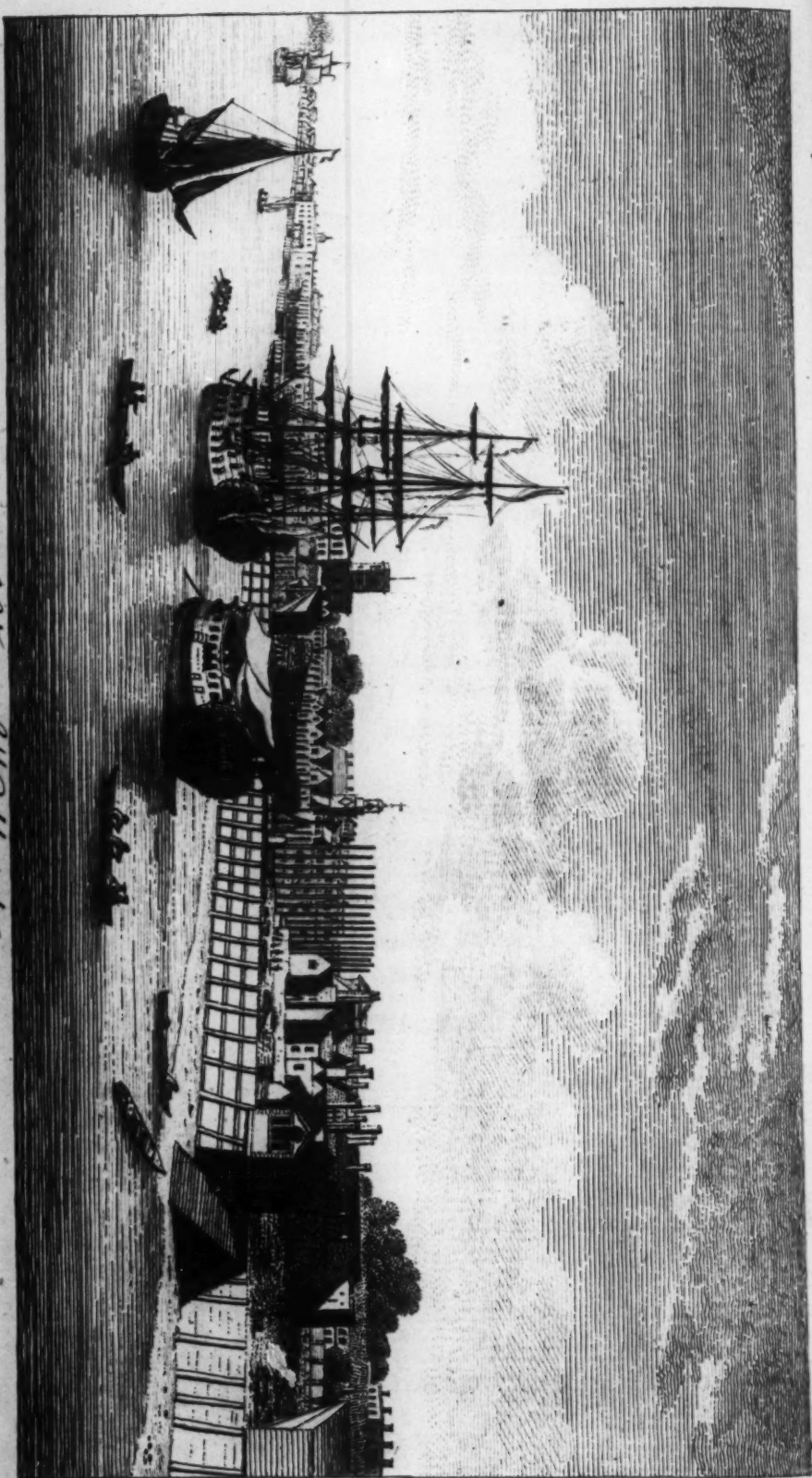
Shooter's Hill affords a most noble and extensive prospect, not only into almost all parts of this county, but into Sussex, Surrey, and Essex; and also of the cities of London and Westminster, and both up and down the river Thames, where the continual passage of numerous ships, vessels, and boats of all kinds, yields a most pleasing and delightful appearance. A design was some time since formed of building a town here, but it seems now to be laid aside.

C H A R L T O N.

This is a pleasant and well-built village on the north side of Blackheath. It is particularly famous for a disorderly fair held in its neighbourhood on the 18th of October, St. Luke's Day; when the mob, who wear horns on their heads, used to take all kind of liberties, and the lewd and vulgar women who attended there gave a loose to all manner of indecency; but these irregularities have of late years been much restrained. This is called *Horn Fair*, and there are sold at it rams horns, horn toys, and wares of all sorts. Of this whimsical fair, a vulgar tradition gives the following origin. It is said that King John, who had a palace at Eltham, in this neighbourhood, being out a hunting near Charlton, which was then a mean hamlet, was separated from his attendants, when entering a cottage, he found the mistress of it alone; who being handsome, the King became enamoured of her, and as she was not the most modest of her sex, he found means to debauch her. But, in the mean time, her husband came in, and caught them in the fact; and threatening to kill them both, the King was forced to discover himself, and to purchase his safety with gold. Besides which, he gave the husband all the land, from thence as far as the place now called Cuckold's Point, and also bestowed on him the whole hamlet; establishing a fair, as a condition of his holding his new demesne, in which horns were both to be sold and worn. A sermon is preached on the fair day in the church: which is one of the handsomest in the county. It was beautified and repaired by Sir Adam Newton, Bart. who was tutor to King James the First's son, Prince Henry: this manor being granted by this monarch to that gentleman. At the entrance of the village stands the antient Manor-House built by Sir Adam Newton. The two last Earls of Egmont inhabited this mansion some years ago; but it is now in the possession of Mr. Jones, who married the heiress of it. It is a stately Gothic structure, with four turrets on the top; the court before the house is
spa-



A View of the Manor House at Chertsey, built by L. A. M.



A View of Woolwich.

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spacious; and there are two large Gothic piers to the gates; and on the outside of the wall is a long row of some of the oldest cypress trees in England. Behind the house are large gardens, and beyond these a small park, which joins to Woolwich common.

W O O L W I C H.

This is a market-town, in Kent, about nine miles from London, and three from Greenwich, situated on the banks of the river Thames, and wholly taken up by, and in a manner raised from, the yards and docks erected there for the naval service. In the reign of King Edward I. Woolwich was in the possession of Gilbert de Marisco; and he held it, as half a Knight's fee, of Warren de Monchenfie, Baron of Swanscombe. But Queen Elizabeth, when the business of the navy increased, built here larger ships than were usually employed before; new docks and launches were erected, and places prepared for building and repairing ships of the largest size; because here was a greater depth of water, and a freer channel, than at Deptford. This is reckoned the mother-dock of the royal navy, and is said to have furnished as many ships of war as any two docks in England.

All the buildings and yards belonging to the dock, are encompassed with an high wall, and are very spacious and convenient; and so prodigiously full of all sorts of stores, of timber, plank, masts, pitch, tar, and other naval provisions, as can hardly be conceived. Besides the building-yard, here is a large rope-walk, where the biggest cables are made for men of war; and on the East, or lower part of the town, is the Gun-yard, commonly called, *the Warren*, or *the Gun-Park*; where there is a vast quantity of cannon of all sorts, for the ships of war, every ship's guns a-part, heavy cannon for batteries, and mortars of all sorts and sizes; insomuch that here have been laid up at one time, between seven and eight thousand pieces of ordinance, besides mortars and shells, almost beyond number. Here is also the house where the firemen and engineers prepare their fire-works, and charge bombs, carcasses, and grenadoes, for the public service.

The town has been of late years much enlarged and beautified, several fine docks, rope yards, and capacious magazines added; and the royal foundery for cannon repaired and improved. The regiment of the royal train of artillery commonly lies here; and here is an academy for instructing them in the art of gunnery. The Thames is here near a mile over
at

at high water, and the water salt upon the flood; and as the channel lies strait East and West for about three miles, the tide runs very strong, and the river is entirely free from shoals and sands, and has seven or eight fathom water; so that the largest ships may ride here with safety, even at low water. The parish-church of Woolwich is one of the fifty new churches, and is a very handsome edifice. A weekly market is kept in this town on Fridays.—There is a fortification near Woolwich, on the river Ravensbourn, the aræ of which is enclosed with treble ramparts and ditches, very high and deep, near two miles in compass; which is supposed to be a work of the Romans.

Between Woolwich and Dartford is a village named *Eritb*, situated on the banks of the Thames. And on the brow of a hill near this place, is a very agreeable seat, belonging to Sir Sampson Gideon, Bart. It is called *BELVEDERE HOUSE*, and commands a vast extent of a fine country many miles beyond the Thames, which is about a mile and an half distant. This river and its navigation add greatly to the beauty of this scene, which exhibits to the eye of the spectator a most pleasing and delightful landscape. The innumerable ships employed in the immense trade of London, are beheld continually sailing up and down the river. On the other side are prospects not less beautiful, though of another kind. The proprietor of this seat has very judiciously laid out his grounds, and made many beautiful vistas. The house is but small, though an addition has been made of a very noble room; this and two others are finely furnished with a valuable collection of pictures by the greatest masters; among which are the following: a portrait of Sir John Gage, by Hans Holbein; St. Catherine, by Leonardo da Vinci; Rembrandt painting an old woman, by himself; Snyders with his wife and child, by Rubens; Boors at cards, by Teniers; the Marriage in Cana of Galilee, by Paul Veronese; the genealogy of Christ, by Albert Durer; Herod consulting the wise-men, by Rembrandt; and Mars and Venus, by Paul Veronese.

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This is an handsome large town, sixteen miles from London. But it is more properly called *Darentford*, from its being situated on the river Darent, which runs through it, and at a small distance falls into the Thames. On this river the first paper-mill in England was erected by Sir John Spilman, who obtained



Belvedere House, the Seat of Sir Sampson Gideon Bart.

tained a patent, and 200 l. a year from K. Charles I. to enable him to carry on that manufacture: and on this river was also the first mill for slitting iron bars for making wire. The town is full of inns and other public houses, on account of its being a great thoroughfare to Canterbury and Dover. Here is a harbour for barges, and the town is finely watered by two or three good springs. King Edward III. had a general tournament performed here by his Nobles, and also here founded a convent, whose Abbess and Nuns were, for the most part, of the noblest families in the kingdom; and this convent King Henry VIII. turned into a palace. King Henry VI. founded an alms-house here for five poor decrepid men. There is a market here on Saturdays, which is generally well stored with corn, and other provisions; and much frequented by corn-chandlers and meal-men. Here is also an annual fair on the 2d of August for horses and bullocks. There is a large gunpowder-mill here; and it is very remarkable, that though it has been blown up four times, between the years 1730 and 1738, yet no one ever received any personal damage by these misfortunes. This town gives the title of Viscount to the Earl of Jersey.

Crayford, is a small town near Dartford, which obtained its name from its having anciently a ford over the river Cray, or Crouch, a little above its influx into the Thames. This place is famous for a battle fought near it, between the Britons and Saxons commanded by Hengist, A. D. 457, in which the Britons were overthrown. In the adjacent heath and fields, are several caves, supposed to have been formed by the Saxons as places of security and shelter for their wives, children, and effects, during their wars with the Britons.

There are also several villages in Kent, which take their names from the small river Cray, on the banks of which they are situated. This stream rises a little to the south-west of St. Mary Cray, runs by that town, and passing by Paul's Cray, Foot's Cray, and North Cray, runs into the Darent, near its conflux with the Thames at Dartford creek, opposite to Purfleet. The principal of these places is St. Mary Cray, about which are many woods of Birch, from which the broom-makers in Kent-street, Southwark, are supplied.

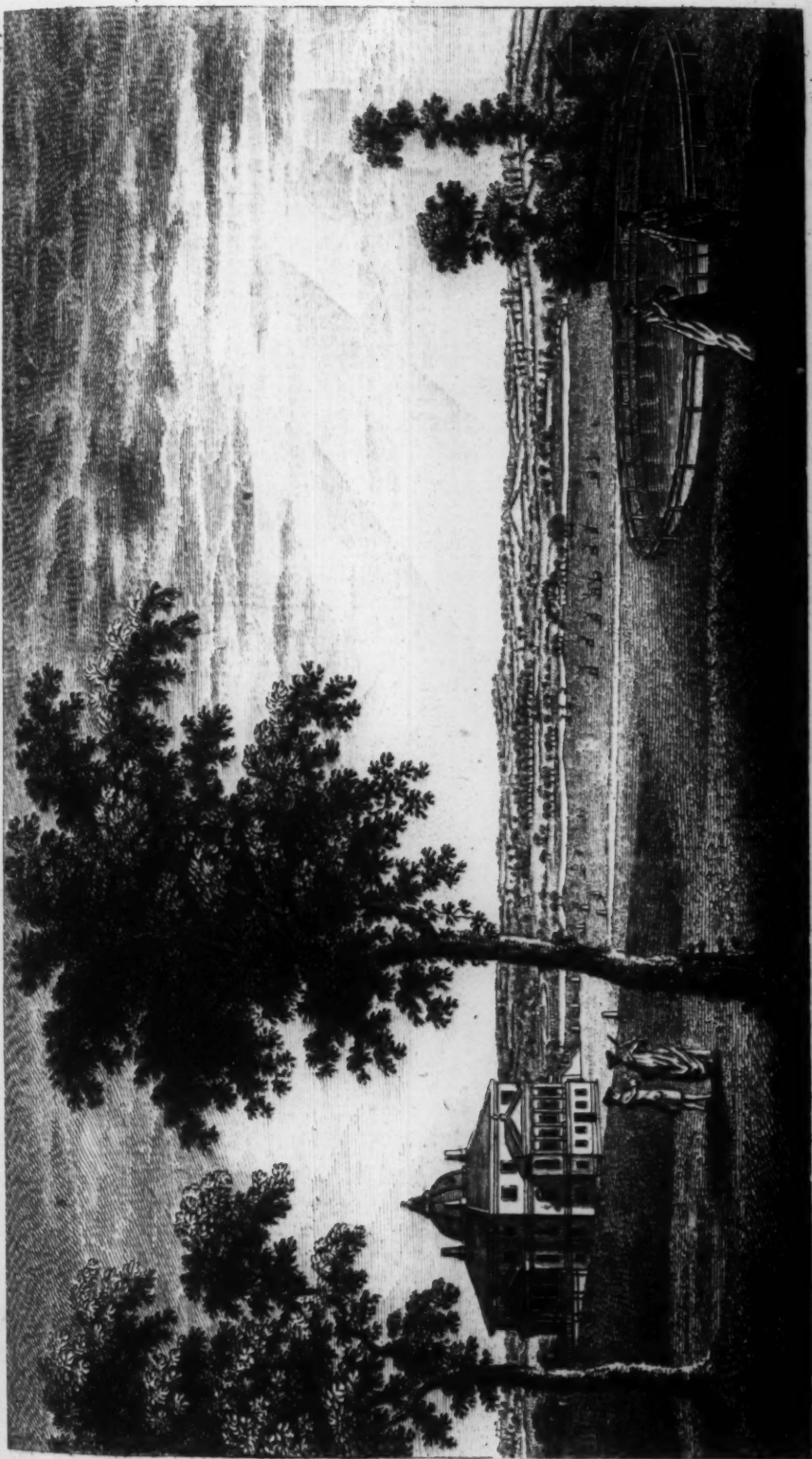
At *Foot's Cray*, which is about twelve miles from London, Mr. Harene has a very fine seat, which was built by the late Bouchier Cleeve, Esq; after a design of Palladio, of the Ionic order,

order, and is very elegant. The original design had four porticos, three of which are filled up in order to gain more room. The hall is octagonal, and has a gallery round which conveys you to the bed-chambers. It is enlightened from the top, and is very beautiful. The edifice is built of stone, but the offices, which are on each side at some distance, are brick. The house stands on a rising ground, with a gradual descent from it till you come to the water, which from the house appears to be a small river gliding along through the whole length of the ground: and in that part of the water which is opposite to the house, there is a fine cascade constantly flowing out of it. But this water, which appears to be such a pretty natural stream, and which has so pleasing an effect, is in reality artificial, and is brought from the river Cray, which runs just by. When the canal or cut, which is made through the ground to receive the water from the river, is full, it forms the cascade before the house, by flowing over in that place, and the surplus water being instantly buried in the ground, is again conveyed under this cut or canal to the main stream. The chief beauty of the ground about the house consists in its simplicity, it being entirely without ornament, and the whole of it a kind of lawn, having little besides the plain turf. The situation is pleasant, and the prospect from the house very good. The disposition of the rooms within the house appears to be very convenient, and the several apartments are elegantly finished. The gallery, which extends the whole length of the North front of the house, is a very grand room, and is filled with pictures by the most eminent masters.

Near the road from Dartford (of which we have lately spoken) to Gravesend, is a large common called *Dartford Brink*, where Edward III. held a solemn tournament in the year 1331. The contest between the families of York and Lancaster began here, when Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, &c. A. D. 1452, brought together on this spot an army of ten thousand men. At present it is the theatre of more peaceful scenes, as appears by the booths erected on a part of it, in which the spectators behold the great cricket-matches that are played on this agreeable spot.

About half a mile to the left of the road, between Dartford and Gravesend, is the venerable church of *Stone*, which has in it several ancient monuments. The mansion called *Stone castle* is to the right of the road: the ancient structure is gone to ruins, and a modern building erected in its place, which is

now



A View of Foots-Cray Place, in the County of Kent.

View of the River Thames near Northfleet.



A View of Gravesend in the County of Kent.



now the habitation of John Talbot, Esq. Greenhithe is a romantic situation on the bank of the Thames; on the left, are a number of large pits, from which are shipped innumerable tons of chalk and lime. Beyond the eighteenth mile stone, on the left hand, is the seat of the late John Calcraft, Esq; one of the representatives of the city of Rochester. The house is very convenient, and the gardens beautifully romantic: from a spacious and elegant room at the west end of the house, as well as from various parts of the gardens, the eye is entertained with views of the river, and the Essex shore, that are perfectly enchanting: and upon the whole it is one of the most delightful spots on the bank of the Thames.

The country about Greenhithe and Swanscomb is famous for being the rendezvous of the Danish free-booters, who drew their fleet into the inlet or rivulet that formerly was pretty deep between the hills, on which Northfleet and Swanscomb are situated: the latter place derives its name from a captain of those barbarians, called Swein, who there pitched his camp, and from whom it was denominated Swein's camp. There remain still several small hills cast up by these free-booters, and called sconces, being stations for a small number of men employed as centinels, when their camp was here.—Swanscomb is also said to be the place, where the Kentish men, sheltered with boughs in their hands like a moving wood, surprized William the Conqueror, and, throwing down their boughs, threatened battle, if they had not their ancient customs and franchises; which he thereupon granted them.—There is a fair held here on *Whit-Tuesday*.

The ascent from this valley to Northfleet is lately made very easy, and much improved. Between the road and the Thames is the seat of Thomas Chiffinch, Esq; pleasantly situated.—The village of *Northfleet* is on an eminence near Gravesend, and is very ancient, for it is found recorded in *Domesday book*. The church contains several ancient monuments.

G R A V E S E N D.

This town, which is twenty-two miles from London, is a flourishing and populous place; but the streets are narrow, and the pavement bad. Gravesend has changed its situation since the great increase of trade in this nation, and approached nearer the river, as the chief support of its inhabitants. It was incorporated, together with Milton, which is at a small distance from hence, in the 10th year of Queen Elizabeth's
K reign,

reign, by the name of the port-reeve, (which has been changed to that of Mayor) jurats, and inhabitants of the towns of Gravesend and Milton. Gravesend is situated on the river Thames, opposite to Tilbury Fort, and is a vast thoroughfare between London and Dover. Here is seated one of the block-houses for securing the passage of the Thames up to London; and this being the usual landing place for all strangers and seamen, occasions a great resort of all degrees of people; for whose accommodation there are held here two large weekly markets, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, well stored with all sorts of provisions. Here all outward-bound ships must stop, and come to an anchor, when a searcher of the customs comes on board, and looks after the several cockets, which contain the entries of the several parts of the cargo, if of divers sorts; and this is called *Clearing*.

In the reign of King Richard II. this town was burnt and plundered by the French; who, to make reprisals upon the English, for the ravage and plunder made in France by the English army, under the Lord Nevil, came up the Thames with their ships, and burnt and plundered this and several other towns, and carried away many of the inhabitants. But to enable the town of Gravesend to recover this loss, the Abbot of St. Mary le Grace on Tower-hill, to whom King Richard had granted a manor belonging to Gravesend, obtained that the inhabitants of Gravesend and Milton should have the sole privilege of carrying passengers by water from hence to London, at 2d. a head, or 4s. the whole fare; but the fare is now raised to 9d. a head in the tilt-boat, and 1s. in the wherry. The former must not take in above forty passengers, and the latter no more than ten. The watermen's company are by act of Parliament obliged to provide officers at Billingsgate and at Gravesend, who at every time of high water, by night and day, are at their respective places to ring publicly a bell set up for that purpose, for fifteen minutes, to give notice to the tilt-boats and wherries to put off; and coaches ply at Gravesend at the landing of people from London, to carry them to Rochester.

Gravesend being burnt down in the year 1727, the Parliament in 1731, granted 5000l. for rebuilding its church, which stood near the high road, but is now nearer the river, and is a new and elegant building. Here is a very handsome charitable foundation, Mr. Henry Pinnock having in 1624, given twenty-one dwelling houses, and a house for a master-weaver to employ the poor: and a good estate is also

also settled for the repairs.—In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the Lord-mayor, aldermen, and companies of the city of London, were ordered by her Majesty to receive all eminent strangers and foreign ambassadors at Gravesend, in their formalities, and so to attend them up to London in their barges, if they came up by water. If they came by land, they met them at Shooter's Hill, or on Blackheath, on horseback.

Within a few years past, great improvements have been made in the lands near this town, by turning them into kitchen gardens, with the produce of which Gravesend not only supplies the neighbouring places for several miles round, but also sends great quantities to the London markets. There are two annual fairs held here, one on the 23d of April, and the other on the 24th of October, for horses, cloaths, toys, and other goods.

Tilbury Fort, which is in the county of Essex, opposite to Gravesend, is a regular fortification, planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to Charles II. with bastions, the largest of any in England. It has a double moat; the innermost of which is 180 feet broad, with a good counter-scarp, a covered way, ravelins and tenailles, and a platform, on which 106 cannon are placed, from 24 to 46 pounders each, besides smaller ones planted between them, and the bastions and curtains, also planted with guns; and here is a high tower, called the Block House, which is said to have been built in the reign of queen Elizabeth. On the land-side are also two redoubts of brick; and there it is able to lay the whole level under water. The four provincial ways made in Britain by the Romans crossed each other here. Great part of the land in this level, which is formed of those unhealthy marshes, called the *Three Hundreds*, is held by the farmers, cowkeepers, and grasing butchers of London, who generally stock them with Lincolnshire and-Leicestershire weathers, which they buy in Smithfield, in September and October, and feed them here till Christmas or Candlemas; and this is what the butchers call right Marsh mutton.

B R O M L E Y.

This is a small town, situated on the river Ravensbourn, in Kent, at the distance of ten miles from London. The Bishop of Rochester has a palace here. King Edgar is said to have given this manor to the Bishops of that see in the

year 955. Here is also an Hospital erected by Dr. Warner, Bishop of Rochester, in the reign of King Charles II. for twenty poor Clergymen's widows, with an allowance of 20l. a year each, and 50l. a year to the chaplain. There is a mineral spring here, the water of which has been found, by a chemical analysis, to contain the same qualities as the Tunbridge water, in a greater degree. A market is kept here every Thursday, and two annual fairs, one on the 3d of February, and the other on the 5th of August, for horses, bullocks, sheep, and hogs.

Chesilhurst, or *Chislehurst*, which is about three miles from Bromley, is famous for being the retirement of our celebrated Camden, who resided here for several years, and here composed the greatest part of his Annals of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He died here in 1623, but his body was carried to London, and buried in Westminster-abbey. At this place also that great statesman, Sir Francis Walsingham, was born.

E L T H A M.

This is a pleasant town, seven miles from London, in the midway between Bromley and the Thames. It is full of good houses, and some families of rich citizens inhabit here. There was formerly a royal palace here, which some say was built by Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, who bestowed it upon Queen Eleanor, the wife of Edward I. but others say there was a royal palace here before that time. However, King Edward II. constantly resided in this palace, and his son being born here, was on that account called John of Eltham. The palace here was much enlarged by the succeeding Kings, who when the court was kept at Greenwich, often retired hither. There are, however, no traces of the palace now remaining. Here are two charity schools. The seat of Sir John Shaw is at a small distance from Eltham.

L E W I S H A M.

This is a pleasant village upon the Tunbridge road, near three miles from Eltham, and south-west of Blackheath; and a little beyond the five mile stone upon that road, on the east of the village, lie the pleasant gardens of Mr. Blackwel, banker: they take in the valley, and the hill above it, to which the ascent is through a beautiful shrubbery; and from the

the summit of the hill you command a very rich prospect on all sides, with the publick Tunbridge road at a quarter of a mile distance in the bottom. Upon the declivity of Blackheath, next Lewisham, is the free-school, for the benefit of several parishes in the hundred of Blackheath. It is situated upon a very fine and healthy spot. It is now, and hath long since been a considerable boarding school, preserving at the same time the original institution. It was founded in the last century by Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham, who bequeathed other charities to the parish of Lewisham.

D U L W I C H.

This is a very pleasant village in Surrey, on the borders of Kent, five miles from London, in which and about the neighbourhood are many very agreeable country-houses. Here are some very fine prospects, especially near the house of entertainment called the Green Man. In particular, the fine walk opposite to this house, through the woods, affords a noble prospect; but this is much exceeded by that from a hill behind the house, where from under a tree distinguished by the name of *the Oak of Honour*, you have a view as in a fine piece of painting, of the houses as well as churches, and other public edifices, from Putney Down to Chelsea, with all the adjacent villages, together with Westminster, London, Deptford, and Greenwich, and over the metropolis, as far as Highgate and Hampstead.

Dulwich is noted for the medicinal waters in its neighbourhood, called *Sydenham Wells*; but more particularly for its college. This was founded and endowed in 1619, by Mr. William Alleyn, who named it, *The college of God's gift*. This gentleman was a comedian, and a principal actor in many of Shakespeare's plays; and the cause which induced him to found this college is said to have been the following. He was once personating the devil, in some theatrical exhibition; and upon this occasion, we are told, he was so much terrified, at the opinion of his seeing a real devil upon the stage, that he from that moment quitted the theatre, devoted the remainder of his life to religious exercises, and formed the resolution of founding this college. But the whole of this tale appears to be without foundation; and there is great reason to believe, that Mr. Alleyn was induced to the erection of this charitable foundation by much better and more rational motives. However, this college was founded for a master and warden, who were always to be
of

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Chesilhurst, or *Chislehurst*, which is about three miles from Bromley, is famous for being the retirement of our celebrated Camden, who resided here for several years, and here composed the greatest part of his Annals of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He died here in 1623, but his body was carried to London, and buried in Westminster-abbey. At this place also that great statesman, Sir Francis Walsingham, was born.

E L T H A M.

This is a pleasant town, seven miles from London, in the midway between Bromley and the Thames. It is full of good houses, and some families of rich citizens inhabit here. There was formerly a royal palace here, which some say was built by Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, who bestowed it upon Queen Eleanor, the wife of Edward I. but others say there was a royal palace here before that time. However, King Edward II. constantly resided in this palace, and his son being born here, was on that account called John of Eltham. The palace here was much enlarged by the succeeding Kings, who when the court was kept at Greenwich, often retired hither. There are, however, no traces of the palace now remaining. Here are two charity schools. The seat of Sir John Shaw is at a small distance from Eltham.

L E W I S H A M.

This is a pleasant village upon the Tunbridge road, near three miles from Eltham, and south-west of Blackheath; and a little beyond the five mile stone upon that road, on the east of the village, lie the pleasant gardens of Mr. Blackwel, banker: they take in the valley, and the hill above it, to which the ascent is through a beautiful shrubbery; and from the

the summit of the hill you command a very rich prospect on all sides, with the publick Tunbridge road at a quarter of a mile distance in the bottom. Upon the declivity of Blackheath, next Lewisham, is the free-school, for the benefit of several parishes in the hundred of Blackheath. It is situated upon a very fine and healthy spot. It is now, and hath long since been a considerable boarding school, preserving at the same time the original institution. It was founded in the last century by Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham, who bequeathed other charities to the parish of Lewisham.

D U L W I C H.

This is a very pleasant village in Surrey, on the borders of Kent, five miles from London, in which and about the neighbourhood are many very agreeable country-houses. Here are some very fine prospects, especially near the house of entertainment called the Green Man. In particular, the fine walk opposite to this house, through the woods, affords a noble prospect; but this is much exceeded by that from a hill behind the house, where from under a tree distinguished by the name of *the Oak of Honour*, you have a view as in a fine piece of painting, of the houses as well as churches, and other public edifices, from Putney Down to Chelsea, with all the adjacent villages, together with Westminster, London, Deptford, and Greenwich, and over the metropolis, as far as Highgate and Hampstead.

Dulwich is noted for the medicinal waters in its neighbourhood, called *Sydenham Wells*; but more particularly for its college. This was founded and endowed in 1619, by Mr. William Alleyn, who named it, *The college of God's gift*. This gentleman was a comedian, and a principal actor in many of Shakespeare's plays; and the cause which induced him to found this college is said to have been the following. He was once personating the devil, in some theatrical exhibition; and upon this occasion, we are told, he was so much terrified, at the opinion of his seeing a real devil upon the stage, that he from that moment quitted the theatre, devoted the remainder of his life to religious exercises, and formed the resolution of founding this college. But the whole of this tale appears to be without foundation; and there is great reason to believe, that Mr. Alleyn was induced to the erection of this charitable foundation by much better and more rational motives. However, this college was founded for a master and warden, who were always to be
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of the name of Alleyn, or Allen; with four fellows, three of whom were to be divines, and the fourth an organist; and for six poor men, as many poor women, and twelve poor boys, to be educated in the college by one of the fellows as schoolmaster, and by another as usher. In his original endowment, he excluded all future benefactions to it, and constituted for visitors the church-wardens of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, St. Saviour's, Southwark, and St. Botolph, Bishopsgate; who, upon any disagreement among them, were to appeal to the archbishop of Canterbury, before whom all the members were to be sworn at their admission. To this college belongs a chapel, in which the founder himself, who was several years master, lies buried. The master of this college is Lord of the manor, for a considerable extent of ground, and enjoys all the luxurious affluence and ease of the Prior of a monastery. Both he and the Warden, must be unmarried, and are for ever debarred the privilege of entering that state, on pain of being excluded the college; but as the Warden always succeeds upon the death of the Master, great interest is constantly made, by the unmarried men of the name of Allen, to obtain the post of Warden.

The original edifice is in the old taste; but part of it has been lately pulled down and rebuilt with greater elegance, out of what has been saved from the produce of the estate. The Master's rooms are richly adorned with very noble old furniture, which he is obliged to purchase on his entering into that station; and for his use there is a library, to which every Master generally adds a number of books. The college is also accommodated with a very pleasant garden, adorned with walks, and a great profusion of fruit trees and flowers.

It appears that Mr. Alleyn, the founder of this college, was one of the best actors of the age in which he lived; and is celebrated by Ben Jonson as superior to the antient Roscius. He was master of the Fortune play-house near Whitecross-street, in London, which was erected by himself. He is said to have been distinguished by his moral qualities as a man, as well as by his abilities in his profession. Besides being a player himself, and master of a play-house, he was also keeper of the king's wild beasts, or master of the royal bear garden. But after the erection of his college, it is observed by an old writer, that "this famous man was so equally mingled with humility and charity, that he became
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“ his own pensioner; humbly submitting himself to that portion of diet and cloaths, which he had bestowed on others.”

There is a fair held at Dulwich on the 25th and 26th of May for toys.—Not far from hence is *Norwood*, which used to be noted for the residence of certain gypsies here, to whom many credulous persons resorted for the purpose of having their fortunes told.

Stretham is a village in this neighbourhood, at the distance of six miles south-west of London, and three miles to the north of *Croydon*, which used to be much frequented for its medicinal waters. It has a charity-school, and a seat belonging to the Duke of Bedford, who is Lord of the manor.

C R O Y D O N.

This is a large and populous town in Surrey, situated on the edge of Bansted Downs, ten miles and a half from London. 'Tis said there was once a royal palace in this place, which was given with the manor to the Archbishops of Canterbury, who converted it into a palace for themselves; but it is now much decayed. Archbishop Whitgift founded an hospital here, which he endowed with farms for the support of a warden, and twenty-eight men and women, decayed house-keepers of Croydon and Lambeth, with a school for ten boys, and as many girls, with 20l. a year, and a house for the master, who must be a clergyman. The church, which is esteemed the finest and largest in the county, has several stately monuments, particularly one for Archbishop Grindall, another for Archbishop Sheldon, and another for Mr. Francis Tyrrel, a grocer in London, who generously gave 200l. to build the market house. Here is a great corn market on Saturdays, chiefly for oats and oatmeal for the service of London; and the adjacent hills being well covered with wood, great quantities of charcoal are made and sent to this city.—Croydon has two fairs, held on the 5th of July, and the 2d of October, for horses, bullocks, sheep, and toys.

BEDDINGTON, which is at a little distance from Croydon, is the seat and manor of the ancient family of the Carews. It is a noble edifice; but the wings are too deep for the body of the house; for they should either have been placed at a greater

greater distance, or not have been so long. The court before them is fine, as is the canal in the park, which lies before this court, and has a river running through it. All the flat part of the park is taken up with very fine gardens, which extend in vistas two or three miles. It is said that the orange-trees, which formerly grew here in the open air, have been killed by too great a care to preserve them. They had originally only moving houses, to shelter them in winter, from the severity of the weather; but some years ago, the owner was at the expence of erecting a fine greenhouse, with sashes in front, since which time the trees began to decay, though they had stood here in the open ground above an hundred years, and annually produced great quantities of fruit. The pleasure house, which was built by Sir Francis Carew, has the famous Spanish Armada painted on the top of it, and under it is a cold bath. The church is a beautiful small Gothic pile, built of stone, in the north and south isles of which are several stalls after the manner of cathedrals: and here is also two charity schools, one for boys, and the other for girls.

Carshalton, which is on the south-west side of Croydon, near Bansted-downs, lies among innumerable springs which all together form a river in the very street of the town, and joining other springs that flow from Croydon and Beddington, form one stream called the Wandell. Though this village is thus situated among springs, it is built upon firm chalk, and on one of the most beautiful spots on that side of London, on which account it has many fine houses belonging to the citizens of London, some of them built with such grandeur and expence, that they might be rather taken for the seats of the nobility, than the country houses of citizens and merchants. Mr. Scawen intended to build a magnificent house here in a fine park which is walled round, and vast quantities of stone and other materials were collected by him for this purpose; but the design was never carried into execution. Here also Dr. Ratcliff built a very fine house, which afterwards belonged to Sir John Fellows, who added gardens and curious water-works. It at length passed into the possession of the Lord Hardwicke, who sold it to the late William Mitchell, Esq. In levelling the road near this place, to make an avenue to a gentleman's seat, a large quantity of human bones was found.

Woodcote,

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Woodcote, or *Woodcote-warren*, which is three miles south-west of Croydon, is thought to have been anciently a city. Dr. Gale, who narrowly examined it, tells us, that there are found much rubbish of buildings, the foundations of houses, plain marks of streets and lanes, squared stones, many wells, at small distances from each other, besides other marks of antiquity. Camden takes this to have been the *Noviomagus* of Ptolemy; because it agrees exactly with the distances from London and other places.

B L E C H I N G L E Y.

This is a small ancient parliamentary borough by prescription, having had that privilege ever since parliaments had a being; yet has no marker, but has fairs on June 11, and Nov. 2. It is twenty miles from London. The town stands on an hill, on the side of Holmsdale, with a fine prospect as far as the South Downs and Suffex. Here is an alms house and a free-school. It has an handsome church, which had a spire, but in 1608 was consumed by lightning, and all the bells melted.

Godstone, which is a village two miles north-east of Blechingley, is famous for its quarries of excellent stone. A part of this village lies in the road leading to East-Grinstead; but the other part, as well as the church, stand upon an eminence at a considerable distance.

Tandridge, which is a village three miles east of Blechingley, was once so considerable, as to give name to the hundred in which it stands, and had a priory of black canons, of the order of St. Augustine, founded by Odo de Dammartin, in the reign of King Richard the First. It was appointed for three priests, and for the support and maintenance of the sick and poor, and the hospitable entertainment of travellers.

G A T T O N.

This place is eighteen miles from London, and was formerly a considerable town, but it has at present no market, though it sends two members to parliament. It is a very antient place, and some are of opinion that it was a Roman station, from the coins and other antiquities that have been discovered here: and where the manor-house stands, it is said there was once a castle. The river Mole rises in this parish, which is also noted for a quarry of white free stone, which

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is soft, and endures the fire admirably well in winter, but neither sun nor air. 'Tis much used by chymists, bakers, and glass-houses.

B A N S T E D.

This is a village noted for abundance of walnut trees, but more for its neighbouring Downs, one of the most delightful spots in England. It is particularly rendered so by the agreeable seats around it; and by its fine carpet-ground, covered with a short herbage, perfumed with thyme and juniper, which makes the mutton of this tract, though small, remarkably sweet. There is here a fine prospect of several counties on both sides the Thames, including a view of the royal palaces of Windsor and Hampton-court, and also of London, from the Tower to Westminster, it being a tract of no less than thirty miles, extending from Croydon to Farnham, though under different appellations. There is a four miles course here, which, in the season of horse-races, is much frequented, as all Bansted Downs are, throughout the whole summer, for their wholesome air.

E P S O M.

This is a well-built and handsome town in Surrey, sixteen miles from London. It abounds with many genteel houses, which are principally the retreats of the merchants and citizens of London. It is extremely pleasant, and lies open to Bansted Downs. Its mineral waters, which come from a spring near Ashted, were discovered in 1618, and soon became extremely famous; but though they are not impaired in virtue, they are far from being in the same repute as formerly; however, the salt made of them is valued all over Europe. It has been observed, that there are here so many fields, meadows, orchards, and gardens, that a stranger would be at a loss to know whether this was a town in a wood, or a wood in a town. A fair is held here on the 5th of August, for toys.—In Hudson's lane here was Epsom-court, that ancient Saxon seat, long since converted into a farm.

Adjoining to Epsom is *Durdans*, a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Guilford.—About two miles from Epsom is a village named *Ewell*, near which a magnificent palace was erected by King Henry the Eighth, that obtained the name of *Nonfuch* from its unparallelled beauty. The learned Hentzer, a German, who wrote his *Itinerarium* in the reign of queen Elizabeth, speaking of this palace, says, it was built with

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with an excess of magnificence and elegance, even to ostentation. "One would imagine, says he, that every thing in the power of architecture to perform, was employed in this work: there are every where so many statues that seem to breathe so many miracles of consummate art, so many casts that rival even the perfection of Roman antiquity, that it may well claim and justify its name of Nonsuch. The palace is so encompassed with parks, with deer, delightful gardens, groves, and walks so embrowned by trees, that it seems to be a place pitched upon by Pleasure herself, to dwell in along with Health. In the pleasure gardens, are many columns and pyramids of marble, and two fountains which spout water: one has a pyramid, upon which are perched small birds that stream water out of their bills. In the grove of Diana is the other fountain, where Acteon is represented turned into a stag, as he was sprinkled by the goddess and her nymphs. There is, besides, another marble pyramid, filled with concealed pipes, which sprinkle all who come within their reach." Such is the description which Hentzer gave of this palace and gardens; but the palace was afterwards suffered to fall to decay; and King Charles the Second giving it to one of his mistresses, the Duchess of Cleveland, she pulled it down, and sold the materials, with which a new house was built by the Earl of Berkeley, and which afterwards came into possession of the Earl of Guilford, and was named Durdans, of which we have just made mention.

Mitcham, which is nine miles from London, is a well-inhabited village, much frequented by the citizens of London. Here is a fair on the 12th of August, for cattle and toys.—At a little distance from hence are two villages of the name of *Towting*, situated near each other, and distinguished by the epithets Upper and Lower. *Upper Towting* stands in the road from Southwark to Epsom, and has an alms-house, founded in 1709, by the mother of Sir John Bateman, lord-mayor of London, for six poor alms-women, to be nominated by the heir of the family. This village is adorned with several fine seats belonging to gentlemen and citizens of London.—*Lower Towting* is a mile and a half to the south-east of the former.

Martin, a village about a mile south-west of *Towting*, is a place of great antiquity; for here Kenulph, one of the West-Saxon kings, was slain in the house of his favourite mistress. Here was a magnificent abbey, founded by King

Henry the First, for canons of the order of St. Augustine, and dedicated to the virgin Mary. The prior of this abbey sat in the House of Lords, and the abbey itself was endowed with great privileges, and very considerable revenues.

P E C K H A M.

This is a pleasant village in Surrey, in the parish of Camberwell. Here is the seat of the late Lord Trevor, built in the reign of King James II. by Sir Thomas Bond, who being deeply engaged in the pernicious schemes of that arbitrary and imprudent prince, was obliged to leave the kingdom with him, when the house was plundered by the populace, and became forfeited to the crown. The front of the house stands to the north, with a spacious garden before it, from which extends two rows of large elms, of considerable length, through which the tower of London terminates the prospect. But on each side of this avenue you have a view of London; and the masts of vessels appearing at high water over the trees and houses up to Greenwich, greatly improve the prospect. The village of Peckham, which lies on the back-side of the gardens, is shut out from the view by plantations. The kitchen garden and the walls were planted with the choicest fruit-trees from France; and an experienced gardener was sent for from Paris to have the management of them; so that the collection of fruit-trees in this garden has been accounted one of the best in England. After the death of the late Lord Trevor, this seat was purchased by a private gentleman—There are also at Peckham several other villas, and neat houses of retirement, inhabited by the tradesmen of London, and those who have retired from business. It principally consists of one long street, and has a dissenting meeting-house. Here is a fair on the 21st of August for toys.—*Peckham Rye* is a village on the south side of Peckham.

Camberwell is a pleasant village, situated about a mile to the northward of Peckham, and two miles from Southwark, in the road to Croydon. It has several pretty houses belonging chiefly to tradesmen of London, and a fair on the 18th of August for toys.

Clapham is a very agreeable village, three miles from London, and contains many pleasant houses. There is a small fair held here on the 27th of August.—On an hill near the road-side stands the church, and there is an handsome school-house built by the parish, for teaching the children of the poor of the village.

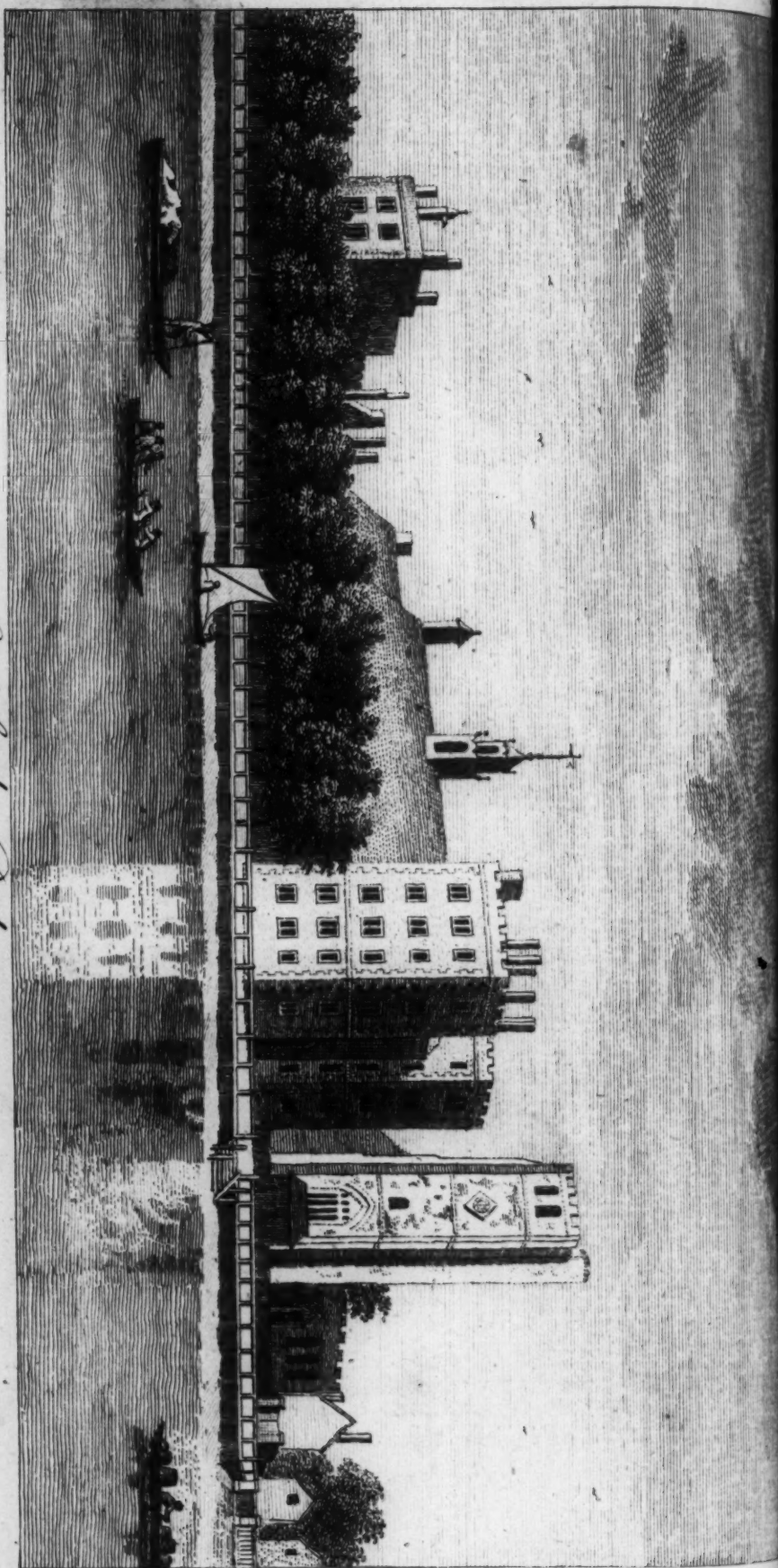
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Lambeth Palace.



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Kennington is a village near Lambeth, and is one of the eight precincts of that parish. Near it is *Kennington common*, a small spot of ground on the side of the road to *Camberwell*, and about a mile and an half from London. Upon this spot is the gallows for the county of Surrey.

L A M B E T H.

This is a village in Surrey, situated on the Thames, between *Southwark* and *Battersea*. It is particularly famous for its containing, for several ages, the palace of the archbishop of *Canterbury*. This structure was originally formed by *Baldwin* archbishop of that see, in the year 1188; who first intended to have raised a superb structure at *Hackington*, near this place; but the Monks, with whom he was at variance, obtained the Pope's mandate against it; when, taking down what he had erected, he removed the best of the materials to *Lambeth*, with which he built the palace, a college and church, having before purchased the ground of the Bishop and Convent of *Rocheſter*, by a fair exchange.

In the year 1250, *Boniface*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, having, by his arrogance, rendered himself hateful to the citizens of *London*, retired, for the security of his person, to this palace; and finding it in a ruinous condition, within the space of three years rebuilt the whole north side, the archiepiscopal apartments, the library and cloysters, the guard chamber, the chapel, and *Lollards tower*.

From that time this palace became the residence of the greatest persons of the church, and was soon enlarged by many additional buildings: *Cardinal Pole* built the gate, which, for that time, is a noble structure. The *Lollards tower*, which is thus named from a room in it prepared for the imprisonment of the followers of *Wickliff*, the first English reformer, who were called *Lollards*, was finished by *Chicheley*, and remains a lasting memorial of his cruelty, and anti-christian spirit. It is a small room, twelve feet broad and nine long, planked with elm, and there still remain eight rings and staples, to which pious men were chained, for presuming to differ in opinion from that prelate. The spacious hall was erected by *Juxon*, and the brick edifice between the gate and this hall was begun by Archbishop *Sancroft*, and finished by the immortal *Tillotson*.

From the present structure being thus erected at different periods, it is not at all surprizing that it has but little appearance of uniformity; but the edifice, tho' old, is in most parts

parts strong; the corners are faced with rustic, and the top surrounded with battlements; but the principal apartments are well proportioned, and well enlightened: the Gothic work about it is irregularly disposed, and it is in itself irregular. Some of the inner rooms are too close and confined; but there are many others open and pleasant in themselves, with the advantage of being convenient, and of affording very agreeable prospects. For as this palace is situated on the bank of the Thames, it affords a fine view up and down the river, and, from the higher apartments, a prospect of the country way.—The palace, with the rows of trees before it, and the church of Lambeth adjoining, when viewed from the Thames, make a very pretty picturesque appearance.

In this palace is a very fine library founded in the year 1610, by Archbishop Sancroft, who left by will all his books, for the use of his successors in the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury. This library has been greatly increased by the benefactions of the Archbishops Abbot, Sheldon, and Tennison, and consists of 617 volumes in manuscript, and above 14500 printed books.

The church, which stands by the palace, is a very antique structure, dedicated to St. Mary. It has a square tower, and both that and the body of the church are crowned with battlements. In this parish are eight precincts, denominated the Archbishop's, the Prince's, Vauxhall, Kennington, the Marsh, the Wall, Stockwell, and the Dean's precinct.—It is remarkable, that at Lambeth Wall is a spot of ground, containing an acre and nineteen poles, named Pedlar's acre, which has belonged to the parish from time immemorial, and is said to have been given by a pedlar, upon condition that his picture, with that of his dog, be perpetually preserved in painted glass in one of the windows of the church; which the parishioners caused to be performed in the south east window of the middle isle.

This is a very large parish, and contains many hundred houses. There is a school here, which was founded by Richard Laurence, citizen and merchant of London, in the year 1661, for educating twenty poor children of the Marsh and Wall liberties of this parish, for which purpose he endowed it with 35*l.* per annum. And by the road-side from Vauxhall to Kingston, is an alms-house for seven poor women, built in 1618 by Caron the Dutch ambassador, who resided in England twenty-eight years.

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In the Marsh and St. George's fields, ditches were made when London was besieged by the Danish king Canute, who turned the course of the Thames from about the King's barge-house to a place beyond the bridge; and it was here that prince died in his cups.

VAUXHALL is one of the eight precincts of the parish of Lambeth; but is particularly famous for the pleasantness of the gardens, which have been for many years converted into a place of elegant entertainment, during the spring and summer seasons. They were the first of the kind perhaps in the world: in the midst of the garden is a superb orchestra, containing a fine organ, and a band of music, with some of the best voices, and the seats or boxes are disposed to the best advantage with respect to hearing the music. In most of the boxes are pictures painted from the designs of Mr. Hayman, on subjects admirably adapted to the place. But there are in the grand pavilion four pictures of his own hand, from the historical plays of Shakespeare, that are universally admired for the design, colouring, and expression. And in the ball room, there are some very fine historical pieces by Mr. Hayman, chiefly relating to the successes of the late war. The trees in these gardens are scattered here with a pleasing confusion. At some distance are several noble vistas of very tall trees, where the spaces between each are filled up with neat hedges, and on the inside are planted flowers and sweet smelling shrubs. Some of these vistas terminate in a view of ruins, and others in a prospect of the adjacent country, and some are adorned with the painted representation of triumphal arches. There are here also several statues, and in particular a good one in marble by Mr. Roubiliac of the late Mr. Handel, playing on a lyre in the character of Orpheus. As Ranelagh has its rotunda, so here also is a rotund and ball room, finely illuminated, in which is an orchestra with an organ, where if the evening proves rainy the company may be safely sheltered and entertained. Some of the principal walks have also lately been covered in a very elegant manner. And when it grows dark the garden near the orchestra is illuminated, almost in an instant; with about 1500 glass lamps, which glitter among the trees, and render it exceeding light and brilliant: and soon after a very extraordinary piece of machinery has of late been exhibited, on the inside of one of the hedges near the entrance into the vistas: by removing a curtain is shewn a very fine landscape illuminated by concealed lights; in which
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the principal objects that strike the eyes are the cascade or waterfall, and a miller's house. The exact appearance of water is seen flowing down a declivity, and turning the wheel of the mill: it rises up in foam at the bottom, and then glides away. This moving picture, attended with the noise of the water, has a very pleasing and surprizing effect both on the eye and ear. Every thing is provided in these gardens in the most elegant manner, for such company as chuse to stay and sup here.

NEWINGTON BUTTS.

This is a village extending from the end of Blackman-street to Kennington common; and is said to have received the name of Butts, from the exercise of shooting at Butts, much practised both here and in most other parts of England, in the reign of King Henry VIII. to fit men to serve in the army as archers. The Drapers and Fishmongers company have arms-houses here. In the church-yard an handsome monument has lately been erected to the memory of Mr. Allen, a young man who was murdered, in St. George's-fields, by some of the foot-guards, when they were wantonly sent out to inflict military execution on an unarmed mob, at the time that Mr. Wilkes was confined in the King's Bench prison. Several other persons were infamously butchered at the same time, under the pretence of suppressing a riot; for the ministry rather chose to endeavour to intimidate the people, by these violent methods, and thereby bring them to a tame submission to every arbitrary measure, than to regulate their own conduct by the principles of law, and of the constitution.

BATTERSEA.

This is a village in Surrey, situated on the river Thames, four miles from London. It gives the title of baron to the lord viscount Bolingbroke. The manor was granted to that nobleman's ancestors, together with Wandsworth, by King Charles I. and Sir Walter St. John founded a free-school here for twenty poor boys, and also endowed it with 200*l.* of which the interest was to put one or more of them apprentice; and the lady St. John also gave 100*l.* the interest of which was likewise to put a poor boy or girl apprentice every year. The gardens about this place are noted for producing the finest asparagus. A bridge has lately been erected from hence to Chelsea, on the opposite side of the Thames.

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Two miles to the south-west of Battersea is *Wandsworth*, a village that has several handsome houses belonging to the gentry and citizens of London, and is said to have obtained its name from the river Wandle, which passes through it, under a bridge into the Thames. There are here copper-works, said to have been first erected by certain Dutchmen, and a fair held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in Whitfun-week.

P U T N E Y.

This is a village situated on the Thames, to the north-west of Wandsworth, and opposite to Fulham, to which it is joined by a bridge. Here is an old church, erected after the same model with that of Fulham; and they are both said to have been built by two sisters. That part of Putney which joins to the heath, commands a fine view, both up and down the river Thames; and here the citizens of London have many pretty seats. In the church, which stands near the Thames, are several handsome monuments, most of them modern. In this village was born the famous Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, whose father was a blacksmith here.

Fulham is a village on the other side of the Thames, in the county of Middlesex, four miles from London. In William the Conqueror's time this was held of the King by the canons of St. Paul's; and there is an ancient house here, which is moated about, and belongs to the bishop of London. King Henry III. often lay in it. There is a toll paid for passing over the wooden bridge from hence to Putney, not only for horses, coaches, and all carriages, but even by foot-passengers.

W I M B L E T O N.

This is a village in Surrey, three miles south of Putney church, where Ethelbert King of Kent was defeated in a battle by Ceaulin the West Saxon, in the year 568. Wimbledon-house stands about half a mile south from the road, on Wimbledon common. It was built by Sir Thomas Cecil, son of the lord-treasurer Burleigh, in the year 1588; and was afterwards general Lambert's, who had here the finest flower-garden in England. The manor of Wimbledon was purchased by Sarah Churchill, Dutchess Dowager of Marlborough; and is now the property of Lord Spencer, together

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with a fine seat she built here, which is adorned with a grand terrace walk, that has a fine prospect to the south. Wimbledon common or heath, which is supposed to be as high as Hampstead heath, is about a mile each way, and is adorned on the sides with several handsome seats.

Roehampton is situated between Putney Heath and East Sheen, and is one of the pleasantest villages near London, having in it many fine houses of merchants; but they are scattered about, so as not to resemble a street, or regular town.

E A S T - S H E E N.

This is a pleasant village, situated a little to the south of Mortlake, where is the fine seat of the lord viscount Palmerston, the successor of Sir William Temple. The gardens were laid out and completed by Sir William Temple, who spent much of his time here. This eminent man was an excellent judge of gardening, and was very fond of his garden; in which he somewhat resembled Epicurus, whom in this respect he admired, and concerning whom he thus expresses himself, in his *Essay on Gardening*. 'Epicurus (says he) passed his life wholly in his garden; there he studied, there he exercised, there he taught his philosophy; and indeed, no other sort of abode seems to contribute so much, to both the tranquility of mind, and indolence of body, which he made his chief ends. The sweetness of air, the pleasantness of smells, the verdure of plants, the cleanness and lightness of food, the exercises of working or walking, but above all, the exemption from cares and solicitude, seem equally to favour and improve, both contemplation and health, the enjoyments of sense and imagination, and thereby the quiet and ease both of the body and mind.'

Barnes is a village in Surrey, almost encompassed by the Thames. It lies between Mortlake and Barn Elms, and is seven miles from London, and five from Kingston.—*Mortlake* is situated on the Thames, between Putney and Richmond, about one mile west of Barnes. Here are two charity-schools, and a famous manufacture for weaving tapestry hangings.

E S H E R.

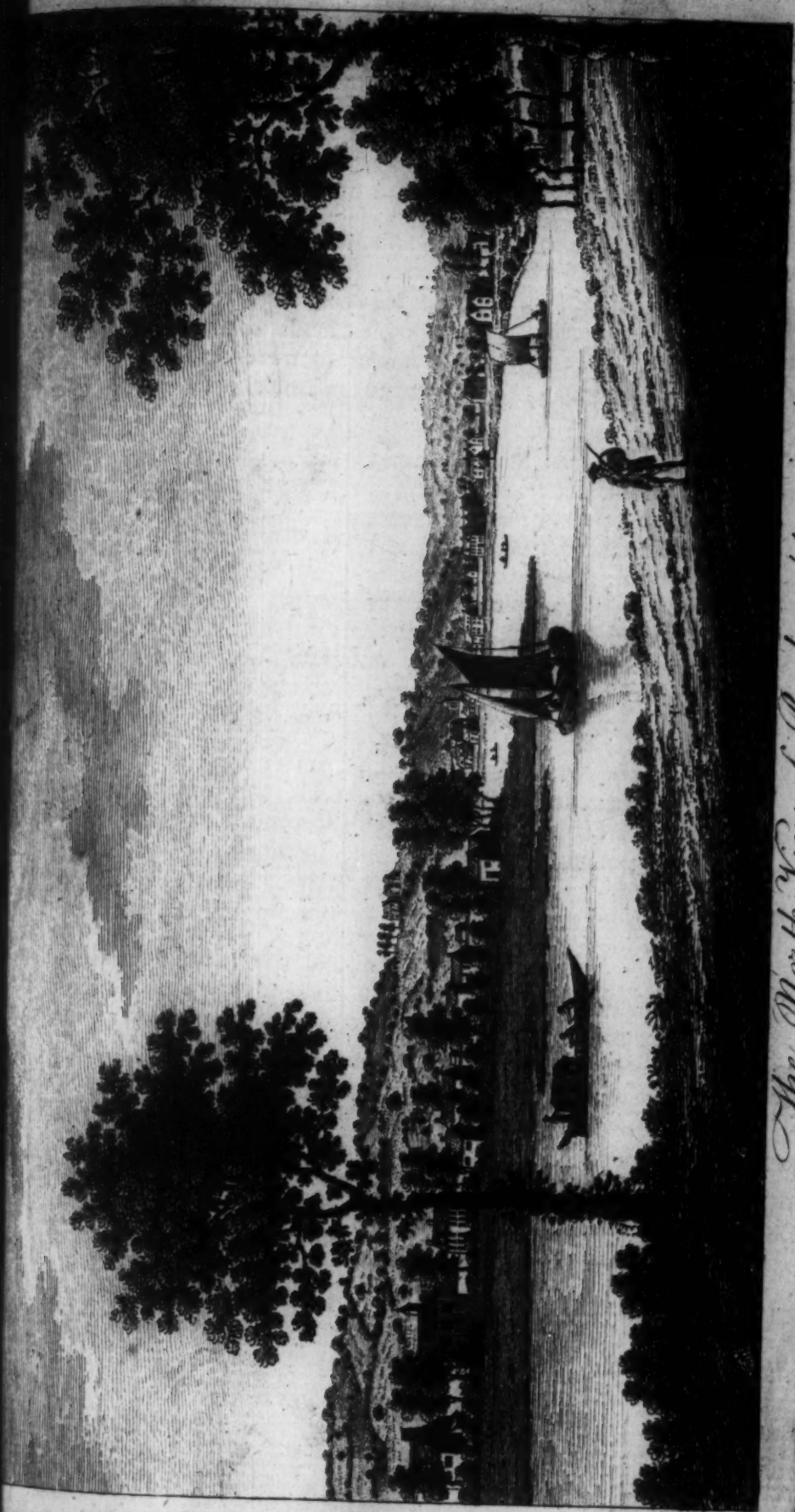
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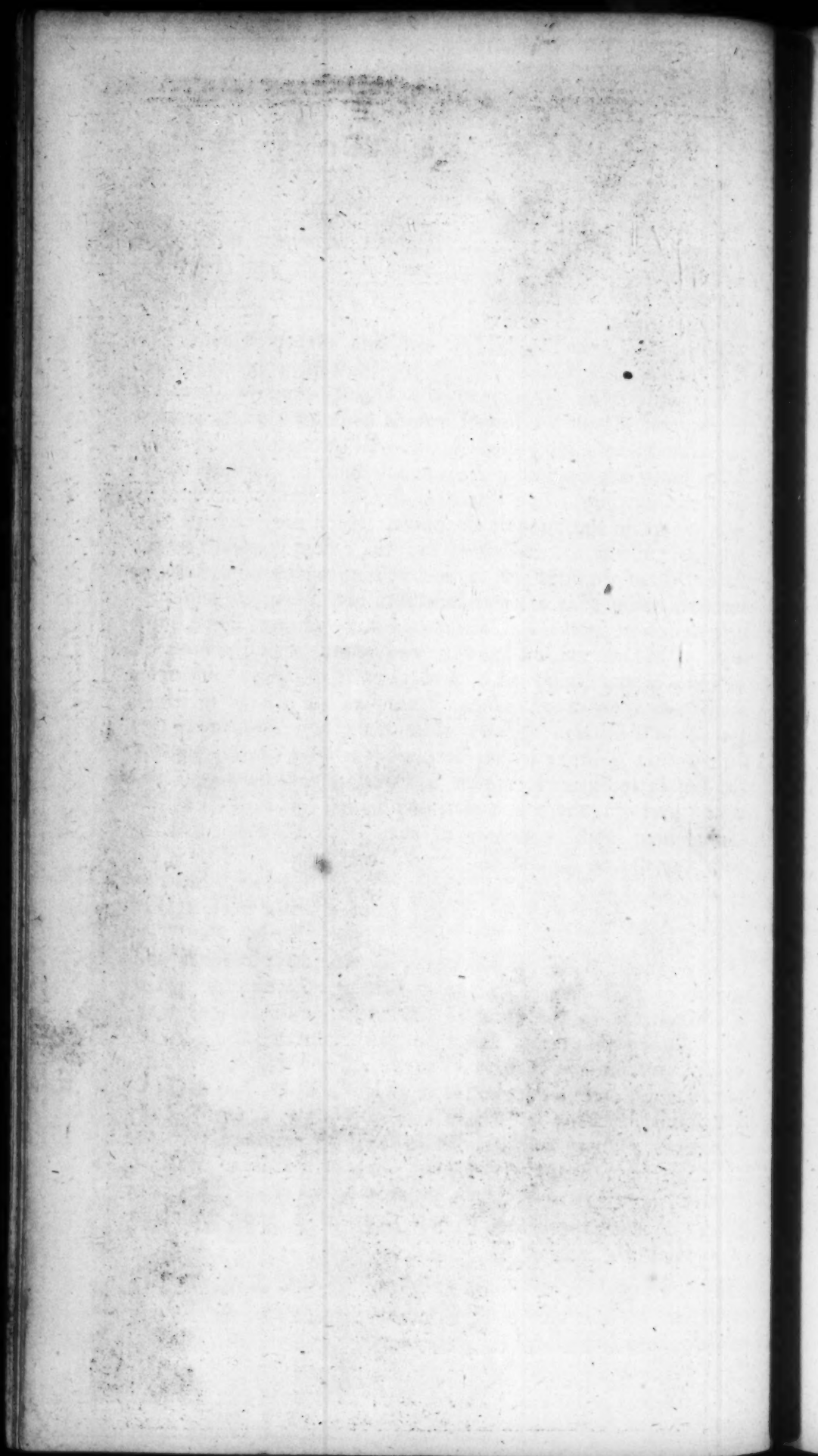
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The North View of Rochampton in Surrey.



E S H E R.

This is a village in Surrey, about seventeen miles from London, situated near Walton upon Thames and Hampton-court, of which last it affords a fine prospect, as well as of the other parts of Middlesex.

Essex-place was the seat of the late Henry Pelham, Esq. The house is a Gothic structure, built of a brownish red brick, with stone facings to the doors, windows, &c. It stands upon almost the lowest ground belonging to it, and has the river Mole gliding close by it and through the grounds. This house was originally one of those built by Cardinal Wolsey; but the late Mr. Pelham rebuilt the whole, except the two towers in the body of the house, which are the same that belonged to the old building, and the whole is rebuilt in the same style of architecture it was before, which uniformity is certainly better than an unnatural mixture of Gothic and modern too often practised. There is a fine summer house built upon a hill on the left hand as you enter, which commands the view of the house, park, and country round on both sides the Thames for many miles. The park or ground in which the house is situated appears quite plain and unadorned; yet perhaps not a little art has been used to give it this natural and simple appearance, which is certainly very pleasing. But in one part of it there is a pretty wilderness laid out in walks, and planted with a variety of ever green trees and plants, with a grotto in it, and seats in different places. The wood in the park is well disposed, and consists of fine oak, elm, and other trees, and the whole country round appears finely shaded with wood.

The grand floor of the house is elegantly finished, and consists of six rooms. The great parlour is carved and gilt in a taste suitable to the style of the house, with curious marble chimney pieces and slab. In this room are the portraits of Mr. Pelham, Sir Robert Walpole, afterwards Earl of Orford, Lord Townshend, the Duke of Rutland, the late Duke of Devonshire, and the late Duke of Grafton; a picture of Lady Catharine Pelham and her son is over the chimney. In the drawing room, over the chimney, there is a picture of King Charles II. when only eleven years old, by Vandyke. The library is curiously finished, and there is a good collection of books in it.

C L A R E M O N T.

This fine seat, which is a little beyond Esher, and which was the property of the late Duke of Newcastle, is now the seat of Lord Clive. The house was designed and built by the late Sir John Vanburgh, in a whimsical style of architecture. It was afterwards purchased of Sir John by the late Duke of Newcastle, who was at a great expence in improving the place. The structure, though singular, does not appear to be irregular. It is built of brick with a deal of variety in it, and of considerable extent, but not much elevated. The Duke built a grand room for the reception of company when numerous, which makes the ends of the house not appear similar. The house has a lawn in the front shaded on each side with trees, and the ground behind it rising gradually shews the trees there also, so that the house appears to be embowered by them except just in the front; and the white summer-house with four little pinnacles, one at each corner, built on the mount which gives name to the place, when viewed from before the front of the house, rises up finely from behind the trees, and all together forms a very pleasing appearance. The park in which it is situated is distinguished by its noble woods, lawns, walks, mounts, prospects, &c. The summer-house called the Belvedere, at about a mile distance from the house, on that side of the park next Esher, affords a very beautiful and extensive view of the country quite round; yet that from the summer-house at Esher place is perhaps no way inferior to it.

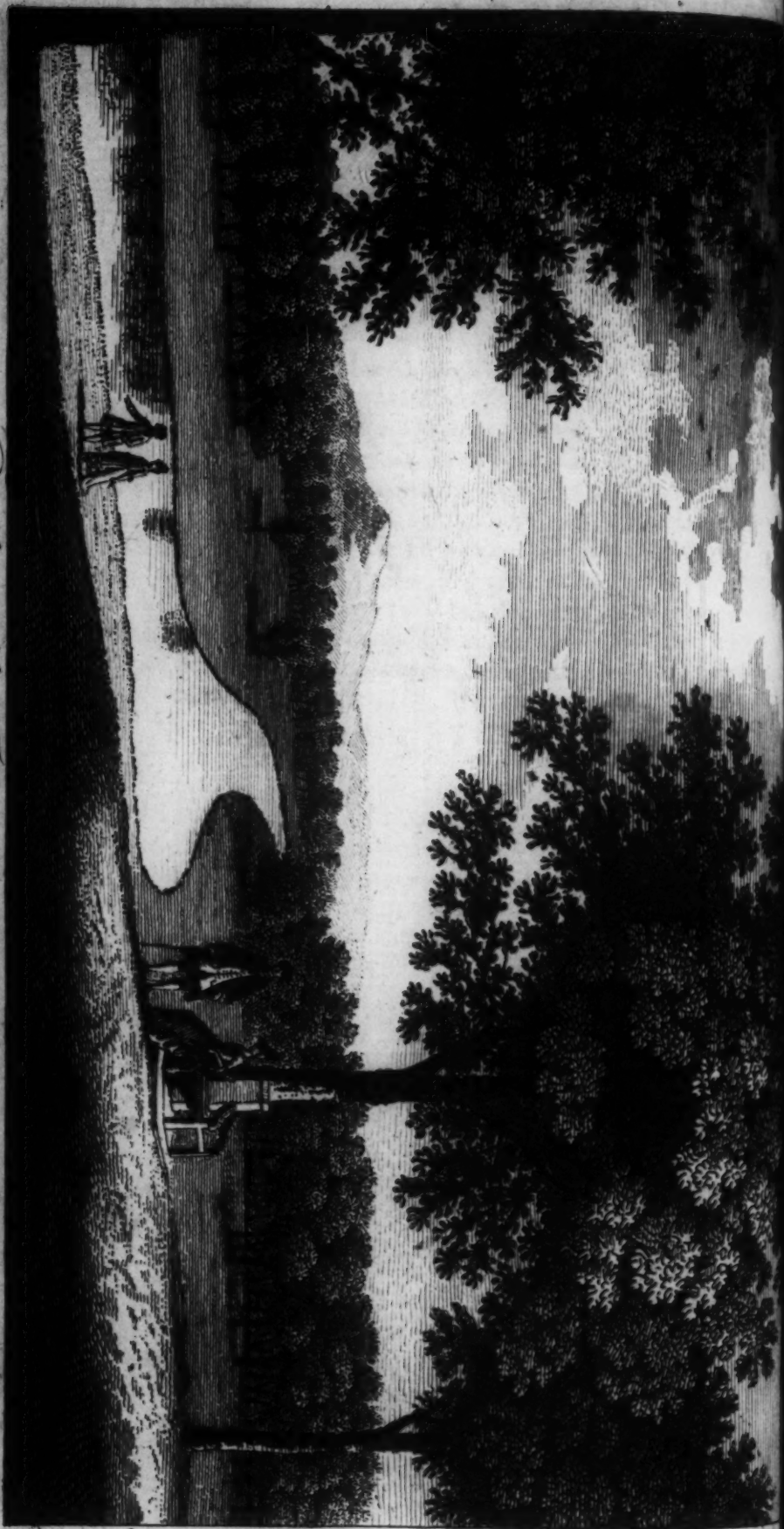
C H E R T S E Y.

This is a market-town in Surrey, nineteen miles from London, and stands upon the bank of the Thames, over which it has a bridge. The inhabitants trade much in malt, which is sent in barges to London. Here is an handsome free-school, which was erected by Sir William Perkins, who had a seat here. There are annual fairs here on the first Monday in Lent, and on May 3, July 26, and Sept. 14. Here was once an abbey, by the ruins of which the streets are somewhat raised. Sir Nicholas Carew, master of the buck-hounds to Charles II. built a fine house here with the ruins of the abbey.—This is the place to which our celebrated poet COWLEY retired, in the latter part of his life, and where he died. And in this retreat, as Sprat expresses it, ‘some few
‘ friends

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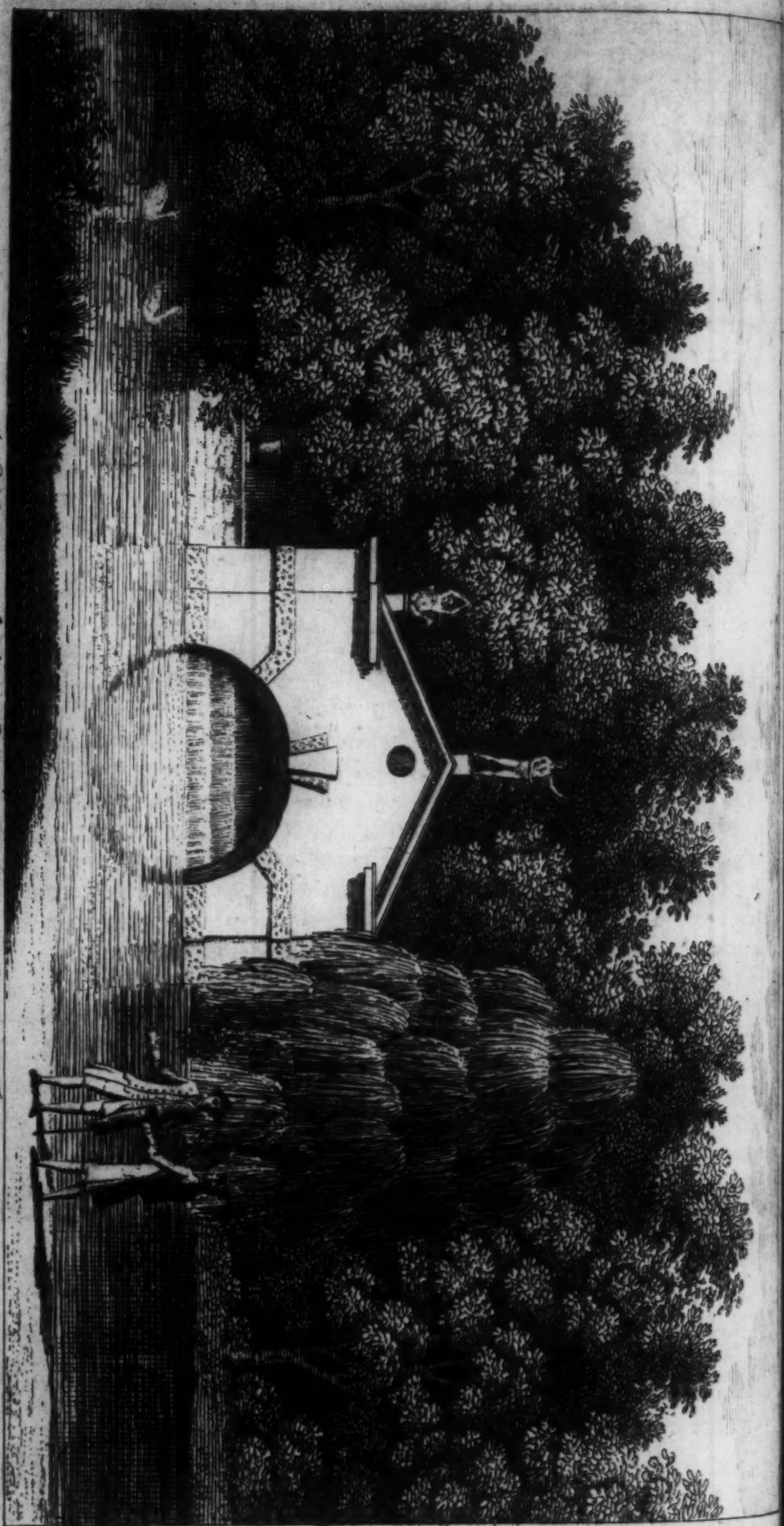
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View from the Terrace at Oatlands.





A View of the Cascade at Ham Tarn.



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friends and books, a chearful heart, and an innocent conscience, were his constant companions.

WOTTENHAM BURTON

This is a village in Surrey, four miles south-west of Hampton-court, which derives its name from a bridge formerly erected here over the river Wey. About this village are several fine seats, particularly those of the present Duke of Newcastle, and the Earl of Portmore.

OATLANDS is the seat of Henry, Duke of Newcastle, and Earl of Lincoln. The park is about four miles round. The house is situated about the middle of the terrace, the majestic grandeur of which, and the beautiful landscape which it commands, words cannot describe, nor the pencil delineate, so as to give an adequate idea of this fine scene.

The serpentine river which you look down upon from the terrace, though artificial, appears as beautiful as it could do were it natural; and a stranger who did not know the place would conclude it to be the Thames, in which opinion he would be confirmed by the view of Walton bridge over that river, which by a happy contrivance is made to look like a bridge over it, and closes the prospect that way finely.

HAM FARM is the seat of the Earl of Portmore. The house is a large handsome structure, built regularly of brick, with a fine lawn before the garden front. The grounds about it consist of about 500 acres, 130 of which are laid out for pleasure, besides a paddock of about 60 acres. Here is a fine command of water, there being two navigable rivers, the Thames, which comes with a fine bending course by the side of the terrace, and the Wye, which runs directly through the grounds, and joins the Thames at the terrace. There is a swing bridge over the Wye, which may be turned aside at pleasure, to let boats and other vessels pass. The Wye is navigable up to Guildford and other places. The terrace next the Thames is beautiful; and though it lies upon a flat, there are some good views from it, and from other parts of the gardens. This place was first beautified by the Countess of Dorchester, in the reign of James II.

WALTON UPON THAMES.

This is a village in Surrey, situated on the Thames, opposite to Shepperton in Middlesex. It is said that the last mentioned

tioned county once joined to this town, till about 300 years ago, the old current of the Thames was changed by an inundation, and a church destroyed by the waves.

At this place is a very curious bridge over the Thames, erected by the public spirited Samuel Decker, Esq; who lived in this town, and who applying to parliament for that purpose, obtained in the year 1747, an act to empower him to erect a bridge there, and this admirable structure was completed in August 1750.

It consists of only four stone piers, between which are three large truss arches of beams and joists of wood, strongly bound together with mortises, iron pins, and cramps; under these three arches the water constantly runs; besides which are five other arches of brick work on each side, to render the ascent and descent the more easy; but there is seldom water under any of them, except in great floods, and four of them on the Middlesex side are stopped up, they being on high ground above the reach of the floods.

The middle arch, when viewed by the river side, affords an agreeable prospect of the country, beautifully diversified with wood and water, which is seen through it to a considerable distance. The prodigious compass of this great arch to a person below, occasions a very uncommon sensation of awe and surprize; and his astonishment and attention are encreased, when he proceeds to take notice, that all the timbers are in a falling position; for there is not one upright piece to be discovered; and at the same time considers the very small dimensions of the piers by which the whole is supported.

In passing over this bridge, when you have proceeded past the brick-work, the vacant interstices between the timbers, yield, at every step, a variety of prospects, which, at the centre, are seen to a still greater advantage. But though each side is well secured by the timber and rails, to the height of eight feet; yet it affords only a parapet of wide lattice-work, and the apertures seem, even to the eye, large enough to admit the passage of any person to go through, provided he climbs, or is lifted up; and as the water is seen through every opening at a great depth below, those unused to such views cannot approach the side without some apprehensions.

It would, indeed, have been easy to have closed these openings between the braces and rails with boards; but they are purposely left open to admit a free passage for the air,

in order to keep the timbers the more sound, and that the least decay may be the more easily perceived and repaired.

From this admirable bridge the nobility and gentry in this neighbourhood find a very agreeable benefit, especially as the ferries are dilatory, dangerous, and at times impassable; and its being erected has caused the roads thereabouts, in both counties, especially on the Surrey side, to be greatly improved.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES.

This is a town in Surrey, twelve miles from London, which received its name from its having been the residence of several of our Saxon Kings, some of whom were crowned on a stage in the market place. It is a populous and well-built place, and in the reigns of Edward the Second and Third sent members to parliament. Here is a spacious church with eight bells, in which are the pictures of the Saxon Kings who were crowned here, and also that of King John, who gave the inhabitants of this town their first charter. Here is also a wooden bridge of twenty arches over the Thames; a free school erected and endowed by Queen Elizabeth; an almshouse built in 1670 by Alderman Clive, for six men, and as many women, and endowed with land to the value of 80l. a year; and a charity-school for thirty boys, who are all clothed. The summer assizes for this county are generally held here. There is a gallery on the top of a hill here, that overlooks the town. Besides the above bridge, there is another of brick over a stream, that flows from a spring which rises four miles above the town, and within the distance of a bow shot from its source, forms a brook that drives two mills. Here is a good market for corn, and the town carries on a considerable trade.

Hircomb's Place here was one of the houses of Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick, who was surnamed *the King-maker*, because he placed Edward IV. upon the throne, and afterwards, dethroning him again, restored Henry VI. This famous nobleman, in fortune, power, and influence, was the most considerable subject who ever appeared in England. In the magnificence of his living, and his unbounded hospitality, he excelled all his cotemporaries. Whether he resided in town, or in the country, he always kept open house. At his house in London, we are told, six oxen were generally eaten daily for breakfast. Every soldier might come into his kitchen, and take away whatever meat he could carry off upon

upon the point of his dagger; which is not a stronger proof of the hospitality of this Lord, than of the plain and simple manners of the age in which he lived. It is said by some writers, that no less than thirty thousand persons lived daily at his board, in the different manors and castles which he possessed in England.

H A M P T O N - C O U R T.

This royal palace is delightfully situated on the north bank of the river Thames, about two miles from Kingston, fourteen from London, and at a small distance from a village called Hampton. This magnificent structure was built with brick by Cardinal Wolsey, who here set up two hundred and eighty silk beds for strangers only, and richly stored it with gold and silver plate; but it raised so much envy against him, that to screen himself from its effects, he gave it to King Henry VIII. who, in return, suffered him to live in his palace of Richmond. King Henry greatly enlarged it, and it had then five spacious courts adorned with buildings, which in that age were so greatly admired by all foreigners as well as the natives, that the learned Grotius says of this place:

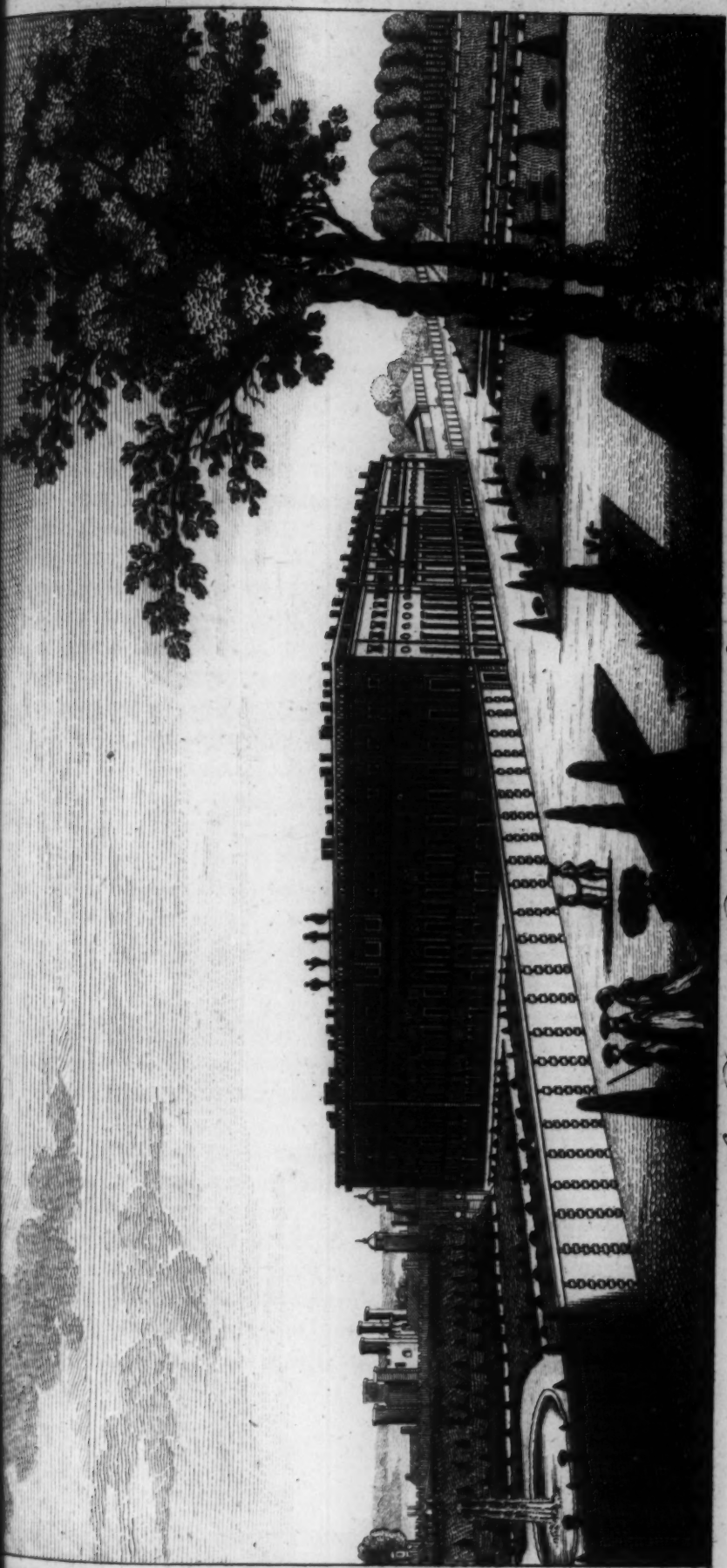
Si quis opes nescit (sed quis tamen ille?) Britannus,
Hampton Curia, tuos consultat ille Lares:
Contulerit toto cum sparsa palatia mundo,
Dicet, Ibi Reges, hic habitare Deos.

That is,

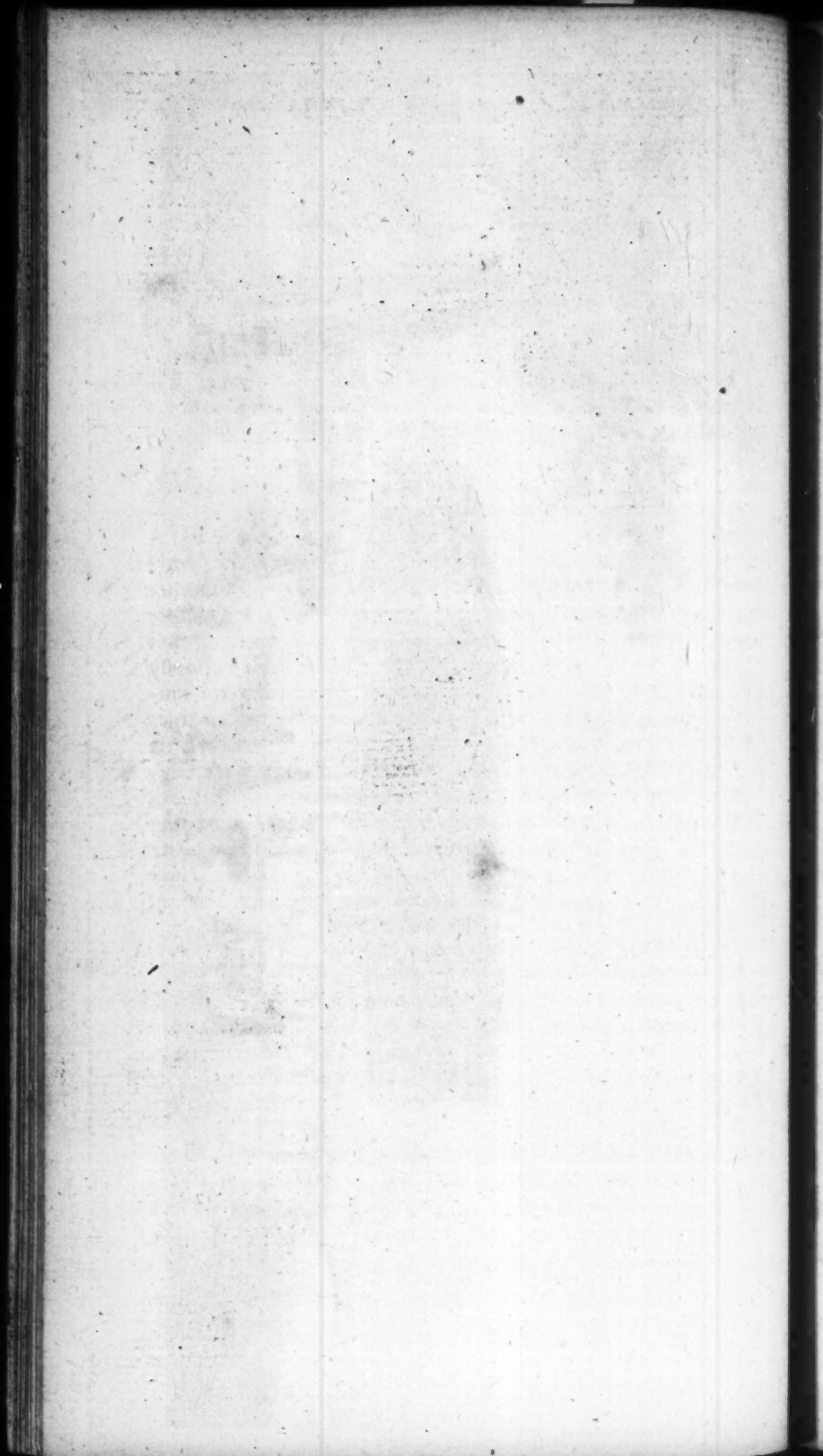
If e'er a Briton what is wealth don't know; let him repair to Hampton Court, and then view all the palaces of the earth, when he will say, Those are the residence of Kings, but this of the Gods.

In order to give a more perfect idea of this grandeur, we shall give a description of the ornaments of this palace, as they appeared in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, from an author who describes what he himself saw.

"The chief area, says he, is paved with square stone;
"in its center is a fountain that throws up water, covered
"with a gilt crown, on the top of which is a statue of Justice, supported by columns of black and white marble. The
"chapel of this palace is most splendid, in which the Queen's
"closet is quite transparent, having its windows of crystal.
"We were led into two chambers called the presence, or
"chambers of audience, which shone with tapestry of gold
and



The Royal Palace of Hampton Court.



“ and silver, and silk of different colours: under the canopy
 “ of state are these words embroidered in pearl, VIVAT
 “ HENRICUS OCTAVUS. Here is besides a small chapel
 “ richly hung with tapestry, where the Queen performs her
 “ devotions. In her bed-chamber the bed was covered with
 “ very costly coverlids of silk. At no great distance from
 “ this room we were shewn a bed, the teaster of which was
 “ worked by Anne Boleyn, and presented by her to her
 “ husband Henry VIII. All the other rooms being very nu-
 “ merous, are adorned with tapestry of gold, silver, and
 “ velvet, in some of which were woven history pieces, in
 “ others Turkish and American dresses, all extremely na-
 “ tural.

“ In the hall are these curiosities: a very clear looking
 “ glass, ornamented with columns and little images of ala-
 “ baster; a portrait of Edward VI. brother to Queen Eliza-
 “ beth; the true portrait of Lucretia; a picture of the battle
 “ of Pavia; the history of Christ’s passion, carved in mother
 “ of pearl; the portrait of Mary Queen of Scots; the picture
 “ of Ferdinand Prince of Spain, and of Philip his son; that
 “ of Henry VIII. under which was placed the Bible curiously
 “ written upon parchment; an artificial sphere; several mu-
 “ sical instruments: in the tapestry are represented negroes
 “ riding upon elephants; the bed in which Edward VI. is
 “ said to have been born, and where his mother Jane Sey-
 “ mour died in childbed. In one chamber were several ex-
 “ cessively rich tapestries, which are hung up when the
 “ Queen gives audience to foreign ambassadors; there were
 “ numbers of cushions ornamented with gold and silver; and
 “ many counterpanes and coverlids of beds lined with ermine.
 “ In short, all the walls of the palace shine with gold and
 “ silver. Here is besides a certain cabinet called Paradise,
 “ where besides that every thing glitters so with silver, gold,
 “ and jewels, as to dazzle one’s eyes, there is a musical
 “ instrument made all of glass, except the strings. After-
 “ wards we were led into the gardens, which are most plea-
 “ sant.” Such was the account given of the magnificence of
 this palace, two centuries ago, by Hentzner, the German.

This palace is, with the parks, encompassed in a semi-
 circle by the Thames. King William and Queen Mary were
 so greatly pleased with its situation, which rendered it capa-
 ble of great improvements, and of being made one of the
 noblest palaces in Europe, that while the former was causing
 the old apartments to be pulled down, and rebuilt in the more

beautiful manner in which they now appear, her Majesty impatient to enjoy so agreeable a retreat, fixed upon a building near the river, called the Water Gallery, and suiting it to her convenience, adorned it with the utmost elegance, though its situation would not allow it to stand after the principal building was completed.

Since the pulling down of the Water Gallery, which stood before the fine stone front that faces the river, the ground to the south west has received considerable improvements. This spot is laid out in small inclosures, surrounded with tall hedges, in order to break the violence of the winds, and render them proper for the reception of such exotic plants as were moved thither in summer out of the conservatories. Here are two basons constantly supplied with water, for the support of these plants in dry weather; and as these are situated near the great apartments, most of the plants may be viewed from the window.

At a small distance to the west, stood a large hot house, for preserving such tender exotic plants as require a greater share of warmth than is generally felt in this climate. Of this part of gardening Queen Mary was so fond, that she allowed a handsome salary to Dr. Plukenet, a very learned botanist, for overlooking and registering the curious collection of plants she caused to be brought into the garden; but since her Majesty's death they have been much neglected, and very few of the most curious plants are now to be found there.

The park and gardens, with the ground on which the palace now stands, are about three miles in circumference. On a pediment at the front of the palace on this side, is a bas-relief of the triumphs of Hercules over Envy; and facing it a large oval bason, answering to the form of this part of the garden, which is a large oval divided into gravel walks and parterres, laid out in an elegant manner, by these two eminent gardeners, London and Wise.

At the entrance of the grand walk, are two large marble vases, of exquisite workmanship, one said to be performed by Mr. Cibber, the father of the poet laureat, and the other by a foreigner; these pieces are reported to be done as a trial of skill; but it is difficult to determine which is the finest performance. They are beautifully adorned with bas-relief; that on the right hand, representing the triumphs of Bacchus, and the other on the left, Amphitrite and the Nereides. At the bottom of this walk, facing a large canal which runs into the park, are two other large vases, the bas-relief on one representing

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 99

senting the judgment of Paris; and that on the other Meleager hunting the wild boar.

In four of the parterres are four fine brass statues. The first is a gladiator, which formerly stood in the parade of St. James's Park, at the foot of the canal, and was removed thither in the reign of Queen Anne. The original was performed by Agathias Desitheus of Ephesus, and is in the Borghesian palace at Rome. The second is a young Apollo; the third a Diana; and the fourth, Saturn going to devour one of his children: all after fine originals.

On the south side of the palace is the privy garden, which was sunk ten feet, to open a view from the apartments to the river Thames; in this garden is a fine fountain, and two grand terrace walks.

On the north side of the palace is a tennis court; and beyond that a gate which leads into the wilderness: farther on is the great gate of the gardens; on the sides of which are large stone piers, with the lion and unicorn couchant, in stone.

At the gates of the first entrance into the palace, are four large brick piers, adorned with the lion and unicorn, each of them holding a shield, whereon are the arms of Great Britain, with several trophies of war well carved on stone.

Passing through a long court yard, on each side of which are stabling for the officers of his Majesty's household, we come next to the first portal, which is strongly built of brick, and decorated by Wolsey with the heads of four of the Cæsars, Trajan and Adrian on one side, and on the other Tiberius and Vitellius.

Thro' this portal we pass into a large quadrangle, remarkable for nothing extraordinary, but its spaciousness and uniformity. This leads to a second quadrangle, where over the portal is a beautiful astronomical clock, made by the celebrated Tompion, on which are curiously represented the twelve signs of the zodiac, with the rising and setting of the sun, the various phases of the moon, and other ornaments, and indications of time.

On the left hand of this quadrangle is the great old hall, in which, by Queen Caroline's command, was erected a theatre, wherein it was intended that two plays should have been acted every week, during the time of the court's continuance there; but Mr. Colley Cibber observes, that only seven plays were performed in it, by the players from Drury-lane, the

summer when it was raised, and one afterwards for the entertainment of the Duke of Lorraine, afterwards Emperor of Germany. In the front is a portal of brick decorated with four Cæsars heads without names.

On the opposite side of this quadrangle is a stone colonnade of fourteen columns, and two pilasters of the Ionic order, with an entablature and balustrade at the top, adorned in the middle with two large vases.

This leads to the great staircase, adorned with iron ballusters curiously wrought and gilt, the whole erected on porphyry. From the cieling hangs, by a strong brass chain gilt, a large glass lanthorn which holds sixteen candles, and has an imperial crown at the top. This staircase, with the cieling, were painted by Signor Verrio, an Italian, by order of King William III.

At the top, on the left side, are Apollo and the nine Muses, at whose feet sits the God Pan with his unequal reeds, and a little below them the Goddess Ceres, holding in one hand a wheat sheaf, and with the other pointing to loaves of bread; at her feet is Flora, surrounded by her attendants, and holding in her right hand a chaplet of flowers; near her are the two river Gods Thame and Isis with their urns; and a large table in the middle, upon which is a quantity of rich plate, decorated with flowers.

On the cieling are Jupiter and Juno, with Ganymede riding on Jupiter's eagle, and offering the cup. Juno's peacock is in the front: one of the Parcæ, with her scissars in her hand, seems to wait for Jove's orders to cut the thread of life. These figures are covered with a fine canopy surrounded with the signs of the zodiac, and by several zephyrs, with flowers in their hands; and on one side of them is Fame with her two trumpets.

Beneath is a beautiful figure of Venus riding on a swan, Mars addressing himself to her as a lover, and Cupid riding on another swan.

On the right hand are Pluto and Proserpine, Cœlus and Terra, Cybele crowned with a tower, and others. Neptune and Amphitrite are in the front, and two attendants are serving them with nectar and fruit. Bacchus is leaning on a rich ewer, and, being accompanied by his attendants, places his left hand on the head of Silenus, who sits on an ass that is fallen down, he seeming to catch at a table, to which Diana above is pointing. The table is supported by eagles; on one side of it sits Romulus, the founder of Rome, with a wolf; and

and on the other side of it is Hercules leaning on his club. Peace in her right hand holds a laurel, and in her left a palm over the head of Æneas, who seems inviting the twelve Cæsars, among whom is Spurina the soothsayer, to a celestial banquet. Over their heads hovers the genius of Rome with a flaming sword, the emblem of destruction, and a bridle, the emblem of government; both in her right hand.

The next is the Emperor Julian writing at a table, while Mercury dictates to him.

Over the door at the head of the stairs is a funeral pile, done in stone colour; and under the above paintings are thirty-six pannels, representing trophies of war, and other decorations in the same colour.—We shall now proceed to give a particular description of the principal apartments of the palace, with their noble furniture and fine paintings.

The Guard-Chamber.

From the stair-case we pass into the guard-chamber, which is very large and spacious, it being upwards of sixty feet long, and forty feet wide. This room contains arms for five thousand men, artfully disposed in various forms. Fronting the door are three trophies of drums, hanging in an uniform manner under the windows, five in each trophy. There are pilasters of pikes, bayonets, and bandaleers, on each side sixteen pannels, which go round the room, with a great variety of decorations and figures, as musquets in chequer work, stars made of bayonets, swords, &c. also circles, ovals, hexagons, and octagons; in the centers of some are the famed Medusa's head, of others Jupiter's thunder, and other devices carved upon a shield: the sides are garnished with bandaleers.

The arms were thus disposed by Mr. Harris, who was the person that first contrived to place the arms in the same beautiful order in the small armoury in the Tower of London, which is universally admired, by people of all nations, who have the curiosity to survey them. This man was originally a common gunsmith, but after he had given such public proof of his ingenuity, he was allowed a pension from the crown.

Over the chimney are the arms of England, &c. with the garter, and motto round them; and underneath is a neat cypher of a W, and over it the royal crown, curiously carved in Walnut-tree.

On the right hand of the door as we enter, are the halberts

berts for the Yeoman of the guard, eighteen in number, and a little farther, six large carbines, regularly placed on a table.

The King's first Presence-Chamber.

This room is hung with rich old tapestry. The cieling is vaulted, and from the center hangs a fine lustre of nineteen branches. Fronting the door are the canopy and chair of state, which, as well as the stools, are of crimson damask; on the back part of the canopy are the King's arms, and round the vallance, a crown and cypher embroidered in gold.

On the left hand of the entrance, behind the door is a fine picture about eighteen feet by fifteen, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, of King William III. who is in armour on a stately grey horse, trampling on the trophies of war, by which lies a flaming torch. At the top in the clouds Mercury and Peace support his helmet, decorated with laurel, and a Cupid holds a scroll. On the bottom part of the picture appear Neptune and his attendants by the side of a rock, welcoming the hero on shore; and at a distance is seen a fleet of ships their sails swelled with the east wind. In the front ground Plenty with her cornucopia offers him an olive branch, and Flora presents flowers.

Over the chimney is a whole length of the Marquis of Hamilton, Lord Steward of the household to King Charles I. by Van Somer; and over the doors are two pieces of architecture, finely executed by Rosso.

The Second Presence-Chamber.

Over the chimney is a whole length of Christian VI. King of Denmark, by Van Somer. This picture, as most of the large ones are, is decorated round the frame on the outside with festoons of fruits and flowers, beautifully carved in high-relief in lime wood.

Over all the doors are pieces of ruins and landscapes by Rosso.

The hangings of this room are very antient tapestry, but very rich, the lights being all gold, and the shadows silk; the subject of those on the left are Hercules and the Hydra; and those on the right Midas with his ass's ears.

The room is spacious, with a vaulted cieling, from the center of which hangs a gilt chandelier of twelve branches. The chair of state and stools are of crimson damask, fringed with the same

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same colour. Here are two tables of fine marble, which have pier-glasses over them, with gilt stands on each side.

The Audience Room.

Over the chimney is a whole length of Elizabeth, queen of Bohemia, who was his late majesty's great grandmother, and the daughter of King James I. Her husband Frederick V. prince elector Palatine of the Rhine, and herself likewise, were driven out of their kingdom, for want of seasonable support of her father. She came over into England in the year after the restoration of her nephew, King Charles II. and died about nine months after that in London, at the Lord Craven's in Drury-lane, in the year 1662.

Over each of the doors in this room, is a madonna, by Dominico Fetti.

The tapestry is fine; the subject on one side Abraham and Lot dividing their lands; and on the other, God appears to Abraham in the front, and Abraham is purchasing a piece of ground for a burying-place.

The room is lofty: in the middle hangs a beautiful chandelier of silver chased, with sixteen branches. Between the windows are glasses; and under them tables, finely carved, and gilt stands on each side.

Here is a fine canopy of state, with window-curtains, chair and stools of rich crimson damask, laced, and fringed with gold.

The Drawing Room.

Over the chimney piece is a whole length of King Charles I. which is one of the finest pieces of Vandyke; and over the doors are two capital pictures, the first is David with Goliath's head by Fetti, and the other, the holy family by Corregio. The other furniture of this room consists of a rich chair of state and stools, two large marble tables between the windows, with pier glasses up to the cieling, and two pair of fine gilt stands: the window-curtains are tiffue, with a silver ground. There are six silver sconces on the tapestry, which is richly woven in with gold, but is very ancient; the subject, the Scripture-story of Abraham sending his servants to get a wife for Isaac.

The State Bed-Chamber.

Over the doors are two pieces of flowers beautifully painted by Baptist.

Over

Over the chimney is a whole length of the dutchess of York (daughter of the Lord Chancellor Hyde, and mother to Queen Mary and Queen Anne) painted by Van Somer; under which, and over the two doors, is a large collection of china, placed there by Queen Mary, who was peculiarly fond of that sort of ware.

The tapestry is the history of Joshua, all round the room, which is very spacious.

The cieling was painted by Verrio. The subject of one part of it is Endymion and the moon: Endymion is lying with his head in Morpheus's lap, and Diana viewing him with the utmost attention as he sleeps.

On another part of the cieling is a fine figure of Somnus, or sleep, with his attendants. In the border are four landscapes, and four boys, with baskets of flowers, intermixed with poppies.

The bed is of crimson velvet, laced with gold, and adorned with white plumes of feathers on the top. There are likewise in this room, eight silver sconces chased, with the judgment of Solomon upon them; a fine black and gold Indian screen; a large pier-glass, ornamented with glass, that is cut and tinged with blue; a marble table, and two gilt stands: and in one corner, an eight-day clock in a walnut-tree case.

The King's Dressing-Room.

Over the doors are fine flower-pieces by Baptift.

The cieling is painted by Verrio, the subject, Mars and Venus. Mars is sleeping in Venus's lap; several Cupids are stealing away his armour; some his coat, others his shield, helmet, sword and spear; while others are binding him about his legs and arms with fetters of roses. The border is embellished with jessamine, orange-trees in pots, and several sorts of birds.

The room is about twelve feet long, and six wide; and in it are two windows, with rich window-curtains, a neat table between them, on which stands a clock; and on the right-hand is a curious weather-glass. The hangings are of straw coloured India damask; the chair and screen are of the same.

The King's Writing-closet.

Over each door is a piece of flowers by Baptift, in a contrast taste; and over the chimney is a fine picture by Boug-

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Bougdané of all sorts of birds; the peacock in front, and the principal figure.

In the left hand corner is a curious weather-glass; and in another part of the room, an Indian cabinet, filled at top with fine china, placed there by the late Queen Mary.

This closet is of a triangular form, and has two windows. The hangings and stools are of a pea-green India damask; there is a fine collection of china over the chimney, and a glass there, so placed, as to shew all the rooms on that side of the building at once.

Queen Mary's Closet.

The hangings of this closet are all needle-work, said to be wrought with Queen Mary's own hand; there are also an easy chair, four others, and a screen, all said to be the work of that excellent Queen. The work is extremely neat; the figures are well shadowed, perhaps equal to the best tapestry, and shew great judgment in drawing. Over the chimney-piece is an old painting, said to be Raphael's, representing Jupiter's throne, by which is the thunder, and his eagle in the clouds.

The Queen's Gallery.

This is likewise called the tapestry-gallery, and is about seventy feet long, and twenty-five feet wide. It is hung with seven beautiful pieces of tapestry, representing the history of Alexander the Great, and done after the famous paintings of Le Brun; they are however not placed according to chronology, for some of the last actions of Alexander's life are placed before those which preceded them. Under that part of the tapestry which represents the story of Alexander and Diogenes, and which is placed over the chimney-piece, is a very neat bust of a Venus in alabaster standing upon an oval looking-glass, under which are two doves billing in basso-relievo. Among the other furniture in this gallery, are two very fine tables of Egyptian marble.

The Queen's State Bed-chamber.

Over the chimney-piece is a whole length of King James I. painted by Van Somer.

On his right-hand is Anne his royal consort, second daughter of Frederick, King of Denmark; and on his left, the Princess Elizabeth, his daughter, who was afterwards Queen of Bohemia: these were likewise both painted by Van Somer.

Over the other door is a beautiful whole length, of that hopeful youth, Henry, Prince of Wales, eldest son of King James I. who died in the 19th year of his age, amidst the publick rejoicings which were made for the reception of the Palsgrave, who was just come over into England, in order to solemnize his nuptials with the Princess Elizabeth.

The cieling of this bed-chamber was painted by the late Sir James Thornhill. The subject is, Aurora rising out of the ocean in her golden chariot, drawn by four white horses. In the cornice are four portraits, one on every side, 1. His late majesty King George I. 2. His late majesty King George II. 3. Her late majesty Queen Caroline. 4. His royal highness, the late Prince of Wales.

In this chamber, there is likewise a fine bed of crimson damask, two Indian sconces, and a glass lustre, with silver nozzles.

The Queen's Drawing-room.

The cieling here was painted by Signior Verrio, in the middle of which is the figure of the late Queen Anne, representing Justice, with the scales in one hand, and the sword in the other: she is dressed in a purple robe, lined with ermine; and Neptune and Britannia are holding a crown over her head.

On the sides of the room are several other paintings of Verrio, representing the British fleet; Prince George of Denmark pointing to it; and the four parts of the world shewn by four figures; but these were thought so badly executed, that they are now quite concealed, and covered over with green damask hangings, upon which are placed nine pictures, three on each side the length of the room, and three at the end; these pieces were formerly all in one, and of a prodigious length, as may be discerned by some parts of the figures, which have been cut asunder, some in one place, and some in another. The whole is a triumph of Julius Cæsar, consisting of a long procession of soldiers, priests, officers of state, &c. at the end of which, that Emperor appears in his triumphant chariot, with victory over his head, crowning him with laurel.

It is painted in water-colours upon canvas, by Andrea Montegna, who was a disciple of Jacobo Squarcione.

The Queen's State Audience-room.

There are five whole length pictures in this room, all painted by Holbein. The first represents the Dutchess of Brunswick,
The

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The second the Duke of Brunswick. The third the Marchioness of Brunswick, their daughter. The fourth the Dutchess of Lenox; and the last, the Queen of Scots.

The canopy of state here is very rich; as are also the tapestry-hangings, the story of which is the children of Israel carrying the twelve stones to the river Jordan, as related in the 4th chapter of the book of Joshua.

The Prince of Wales's Presence-chamber.

Over one of the doors is Guzman, over another Gondamor, two Spanish Ambassadors; over the third is Madame Chatillon, the famous French Admiral's lady; and over the chimney Lewis XIII. of France, with a walking-stick in his hand, and a dog by his side: all four pictures painted by Holbein.

The tapestry-hangings are of green damask, wherein is curiously wrought the history of Tobit and Tobias.

Here are two fine gilt stands in the form of Termini, and a canopy of state.

The Prince of Wales's Drawing-room.

This is hung with tapestry, representing Elymas the forcerer struck with blindness; this is taken from one of the cartoons. Over the chimney-piece is the Duke of Wirtemberg; over one of the doors is a whole length of the wife of Philip II. King of Spain; and over the other, a whole length of Count Mansfield, general of the Spaniards in the Low Countries, all by Holbein.

The Prince of Wales's Bed-chamber.

Over one of the doors, is a whole length of the Prince of Parma, governor of the Netherlands; over the chimney-piece is a whole length of the Duke of Lunenburg; great grandfather to his present majesty; over another door, Philip II. King of Spain; and over a third, the Queen of Denmark, consort of Christian IV. These are likewise painted by Holbein.

The bed is of green damask.

The private Dining-room.

Here are four pictures of the Spanish armada, by Vander Velde; and over the chimney, a very fine one, by Van Dyke,

of the Lord Effingham Howard, Lord High Admiral of England.

The King's private bed-chamber, is hung with fine tapestry, which represents the remarkable engagement at Solbay, in the year 1672. — In the *Cartoon gallery* were the celebrated cartoons of Raphael Urbin, so called from their being painted on paper. These are seven pieces of sacred history, taken from the New Testament, and were at first designed only as patterns for tapestry. For these fine pieces Lewis the Fourteenth is said to have offered 100,000 louis d'ors. The subjects of them are, 1. The miraculous draught of fishes; 2. The death of Ananias; 3. Elymas the sorcerer struck with blindness; 4. The lame man healed by Peter and John; 5. Paul and Barnabas at Lystra; 6. Paul preaching at Athens; and, 7. Christ's charge to St. Peter, commonly called the giving the keys. These cartoons were the greatest ornaments of Hampton-court; and attracted the admiration of foreigners, as well as natives of England; and it is supposed that some foreigners, lovers of the fine arts, have made voyages to England chiefly for the purpose of viewing them. But these admirable pieces have lately, with a mean selfishness, unworthy of a great Prince, been removed to Buckingham-House, or, as it is now stiled, the Queen's palace, where they are concealed from the public eye. It is said they were damaged by the removal; and it must be remembered, that they were not purchased by his present Majesty, (which would have altered the nature of the case) but placed at Hampton-Court by King William III. who built the cartoon-gallery on purpose for their reception.

The Admirals Gallery.

In this Room are the Pictures of the following renowned Admirals.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Sir George Rooke. | 9. Admiral Beaumont. |
| 2. Sir Cloudesly Shovel. | 10. Sir Thomas Dilks. |
| 3. Sir John Leake. | 11. Admiral Benbow. |
| 4. Lord Torrington. | 12. Admiral Whetstone. |
| 5. Admiral Churchill. | 13. Admiral Wifhart. |
| 6. Sir Stafford Fairborne. | 14. Admiral Gradon. |
| 7. Sir John Jennings. | 15. Admiral Munden. |
| 8. Sir Thomas Hopson. | |

All painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. Dahl.

The

A Scene in the Gardens of Davis's Hall.



The Queen's Stair-case.

There is here a large picture, in a gold frame, painted by Viek, of King Charles II. and Katherine his Queen. The Duke of Buckingham is therein represented as Science, in the habit of a Mercury, and Envy is struck down by naked boys.

There are additional ornaments in the Mosaic taste, on each side of the stair-case as well as the cieling, by Mr. Kent.

The New Quadrangle.

In the centre of this square is a round bason, and four large lamps on pedestals of iron-work; and on the right hand, over the windows, are the twelve labours of Hercules done in Fresco.

The Room of Beauties.

The first is the Lady Peterborough.

2d. Lady Ranelagh.

3d. Lady Middleton.

4th. Miss Pitt.

5th. Dutch. of St. Alban's.

6th. Lady Essex.

7th. Lady Dorset.

8th. Queen Mary.

9th. The Dutchess of Grafton.

Queen Mary was painted by Wissing, and all the rest by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

We shall conclude our account with observing, that the whole palace consists of three quadrangles. The first and second are Gothic, but in the latter is a most beautiful colonnade of the Ionic order, the columns in couplets, built by Sir Christopher Wren. Through this you pass into the third court or quadrangle, in which are the royal apartments, which were magnificently built of brick and stone by King William.

P A I N's H I L L.

This fine seat, which is near Cobham in Surrey, at the distance of about twenty miles from London, belongs to the Hon. Mr. Charles Hamilton, who has made great improvements, by inclosing a large tract of barren land, which though so poor as to produce nothing but heath and broom, he has so well cultivated and adorned, that few places are equal to it. The whole

whole place is about five miles round: it is laid out in the modern taste, and planted with a beautiful variety of trees, plants, and flowers. The fine inequalities of the ground give a perpetual variety to the prospects, especially on that side next the river Mole, which river, though it lies lower than the level of the gardens by twenty feet, is brought into them by means of a wheel curiously contrived, which is turned by the river. Every time it turns round it takes up the water and conveys it through a spiral pipe from the circumference of the wheel to the center of it, from whence it is discharged into a trough, and from thence through pipes into the gardens, where by the joint assistance of nature and art, it is formed into a fine winding lake or piece of water, with an island in it, planted and laid out in walks, with bridges over it of the most simple contrivance, and the whole surrounded with rising grounds, clumps of trees, and hanging woods, in as romantic and picturesque a manner as imagination can conceive. A collection of fine Italian and other paintings, brought from this elegant seat, have been just advertised to be sold.

S T A N E S.

This is a market-town, in the county of Middlesex, 17 miles from London, and derives its name from the Saxon word *Stana*, which signifies a *Stone*, and was applied to this place from a boundary-stone, anciently set up here to mark the extent of the city of London's jurisdiction upon the Thames. It is a pleasant populous town, with several good inns, and has a bridge and a ferry over the river Thames; and being a lordship belonging to the crown, is governed by two constables and four headboroughs, who are appointed by his majesty's steward. Here is a market on Fridays, and a fair on the 8th of September. The church stands alone, almost half a mile from the town. From Stanes to Brentford, all that lies between the high road along Hounslow, and the Thames, was called the Forest, or Warren of Stanes, till Henry III. disforested it.

On the south-east side of Stanes is *Runny Mead*, celebrated for being the spot whereon King John was compelled by his barons to sign the famous charter of English liberties, styled *Magna Charta*.

— Near Thames's silver waters lies a mead,
Where England's barons, bold in freedom's cause,
Compell'd their king to ratify her laws:

With

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*With constancy maintain'd the subjects' right,
And serv'd a sov'reign in his own despight.
On that sam'd mead, their honest claims to seal,
They risk'd their private for the public weal;
Bravely resolv'd to make the tyrant yield,
Or die, like heroes, on the glorious field.*

Runny Mead is now divided into several enclosures, parcel of the demesne of the manor of Egham.

E G H A M.

This town is situated on the Thames, in the county of Surrey, eighteen miles from London, opposite to Stanes, and at the distance of four miles from Windsor. It is divided into four tithings, and being a thoroughfare from London to the west, has some very good inns. Here is an handsome charity school, besides alms-houses, particularly one, built and endowed by Sir John Denham, one of the barons of the exchequer in the reign of King Charles II. for five poor old women, who have each an orchard. The parsonage-house here was the seat of Sir John Denham, who rebuilt it, and who was the father of the celebrated poet of that name, who took great delight in it.

W I N D S O R.

This very agreeable town, which is twenty-two miles from London, in the county of Berkshire, is supposed to derive its name from its *winding shore*, on the south side of the Thames. It is situated on a rising ground: the principal street looks southward over a long and spacious valley, chequered with corn fields and meadows, interspersed with groves, and watered by the Thames, which glides through the prospect in a transfluent and gentle stream; and, fetching many windings, seems to linger in its way. On the other side, the country swells into hills which are neither craggy nor over high, but rise with a gradual ascent that is covered with perpetual verdure where it is not adorned with trees.

This town was constituted a borough by King Edward I. with great privileges, such as exemption from all tolls of bridges, markets, and fairs. It sent members to parliament from the 30th of that prince's reign, to the 14th of Edward III. when it intermitted till the 25th of Henry VI. but has sent two members ever since. It has charters from both King James I. and II. It is governed by a mayor, high-steward, under-steward,

ward, a town-clerk, two bailiffs, and twenty-eight other persons, chosen out of the most substantial inhabitants, thirteen of whom are called fellows or benchers of the Guildhall; and of these thirteen, ten are called aldermen; from among whom the mayor and bailiffs are annually chosen. The members of parliament are elected by the inhabitants paying scot and lot, who are computed to be in number about three hundred, and the mayor is the returning officer.

The church here is a spacious ancient building, situated in the high street of the town, in which is also the town house, a neat regular edifice, built in 1686, and supported with columns and arches of Portland stone; at the north end is placed in a niche the statue of Queen Anne, in her royal robes, with the globe and other regalia; and underneath, in the freeze of the intablature of the lesser columns and arches, is the following inscription in gold letters:

Anno Regni VI^o.

Dom. 1707.

*Arte tua, sculptor, non est imitabilis ANNA;
ANNÆ vis similem sculpere? sculpe Deam.*

S. Chapman, Prætor.

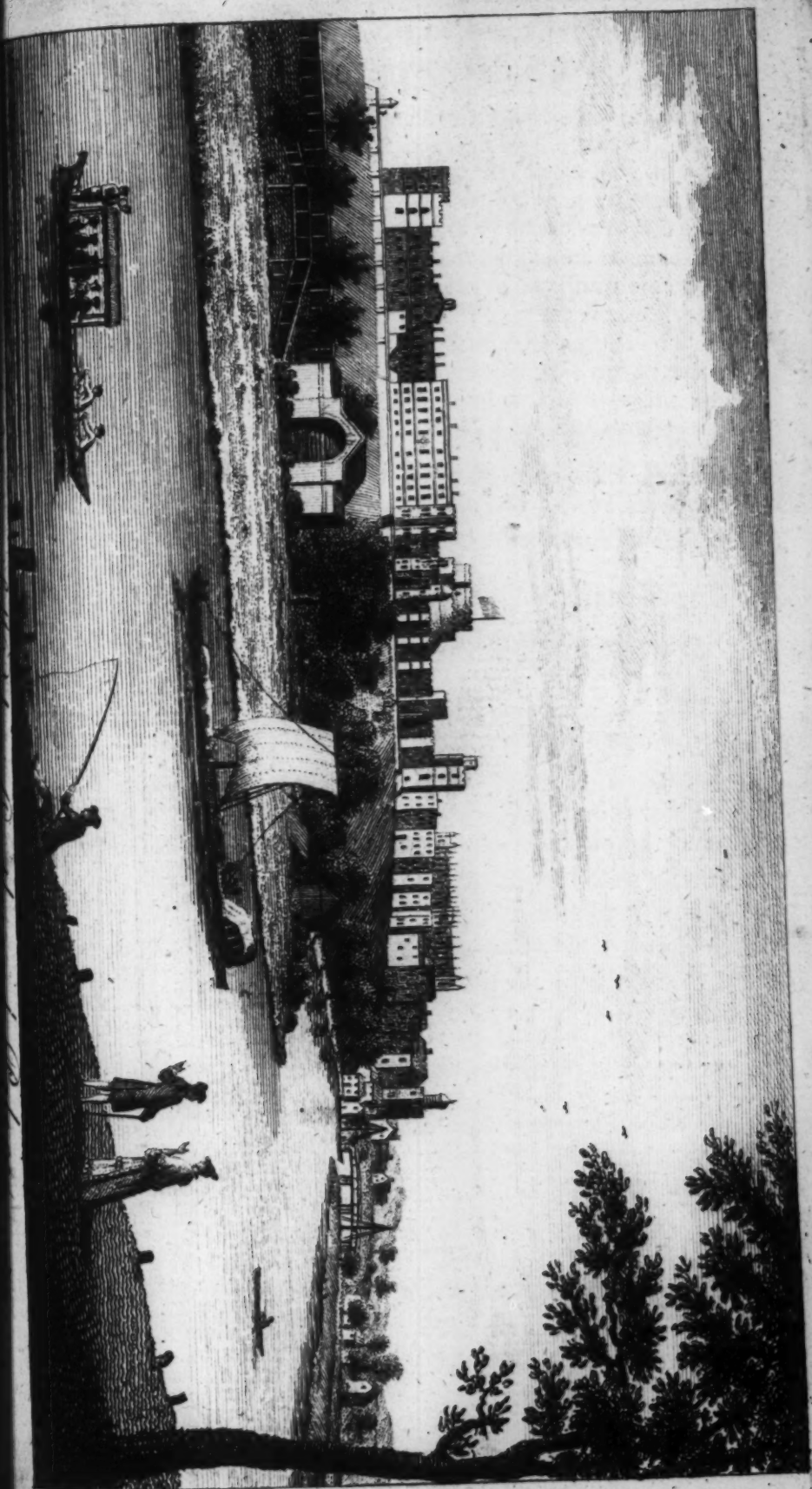
And in another niche on the south side is the statue of Prince George of Denmark, her majesty's royal consort, in a Roman military habit, and underneath is the following inscription:

*Serenissimo Principi
GEORGIA Principi Daniæ,
Heroi omni sæculo venerando,
Christophorus Wren, Arm.
Posuit. MDCC XIII.*

In the area, underneath the town-hall, the market is kept every Saturday, and is plentifully supplied with corn, meat, fish, and all other provisions.

WINDSOR-CASTLE is the most delightful royal palace in England. It was first built by William the Conqueror soon after his being established on the throne of this kingdom, on account of its pleasant and healthful situation, and as a place of security; it was greatly improved by Henry I. who added many additional buildings, and surrounded the whole with a strong wall.

Our



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Our succeeding Monarchs resided in the same castle, till King Edward III. caused the ancient building to be taken down; erected the present stately castle, and St. George's chapel; inclosed the whole with a strong wall or rampart of stone, and instituted the order of the garter.

It may be proper to observe, that William of Wykeham, afterwards Bishop of Winchester, was principally employed by Edward III. in building this castle, and when he had finished it, he caused this doubtful sentence to be cut on one of the towers:

THIS MADE WYKEHAM.

Which being reported to the King, as if that prelate had assumed to himself the honour of building this castle, that Bishop would probably have fallen under his Majesty's displeasure, had he not readily assured his royal master, that he meant it only as an acknowledgment, that this building had *made him great* in the favour of his Prince; and had occasioned his being raised to his present high station.

Great additions were in succeeding times made to the castle, by several of our monarchs, particularly by Edward IV. Henry VII. Henry VIII. Elizabeth and Charles II. This last Prince soon after the restoration, entirely repaired the castle, and though it had suffered greatly by plunder and rapine, in the preceding times of national disorder, he restored it to its ancient splendor. As that prince usually kept his court there during the summer season, he spared no expence in rendering it worthy the royal residence; he entirely changed the face of the upper court; he enlarged the windows and made them regular, richly furnished the royal apartments, and had them decorated with large and beautiful paintings, and erected a large magazine of arms.

In short, King Charles II. left little to be done to the castle, except some additional paintings in the apartments, which were added by his successors James II. and William III. in whose reign the whole was completed.

This stately and venerable castle is divided into two courts or wards, with a large round tower between them called the middle ward, it being formerly separated from the lower ward by a strong wall and draw-bridge. The whole contains above twelve acres of land, and has many towers and batteries for its defence: but length of time has abated their strength.

The castle is situated upon a high hill, which rises by a gentle ascent, and enjoys a most delightful prospect around it:

P

in

in the front is a wide and extensive vale, adorned with corn fields and meadows, with groves on either side, and the calm smooth water of the Thames running through it, and behind it are every where hills covered with woods, as if dedicated by nature, for game and hunting.

On the declivity of the hill is a fine terrace faced with a rampart of free stone, 1870 feet in length. This may justly be said to be one of the noblest walks in Europe, both with respect to the strength and grandeur of the building, and the fine and extensive prospect over the Thames, of the adjacent country on every side, where from the variety of fine villas scattered about, nature and art seem to vie with each other in beauty.

When Queen Elizabeth resided at Windsor, she used to walk on this terrace near an hour every day before dinner, if not prevented by windy weather, to which she had a particular aversion. Wet weather was no interruption to her amusement there; for she took great delight in walking abroad, when the rain was only mild and calm, with an umbrella over her head.—This noble walk is covered with fine gravel, and has cavities, with proper drains, in order to carry off the rain, so that let it fall never so heavy, none of it will lie upon the terrace; by which means it is dry, hard, and fit for walking on, as soon as ever the storm is over.

From this terrace, you enter into a beautiful park of the finest green or lawn, which lies round this royal Castle, and is no small ornament to Windsor; it is called the Little or House-Park, to distinguish it from another adjoining of much larger extent; but this is computed to be four miles in circumference, and contains near 500 acres of land; it was enlarged and inclosed by a brick-wall in the reign of the late King William III. and is most delightful for its natural beauty, and the many shady walks, especially that called Queen Elizabeth's walk; which on the summer evenings, is chiefly frequented by the best company: the fine plain on the top of the hill, was made level for bowling in King Charles Ild's time, (an exercise in which that Prince much delighted) and from hence is the like extended prospect over the same most beautiful and well cultivated country, and the river Thames. The lower part of this park, under the terrace on the north side of the Castle, was designed and laid out for a garden in the reign of Queen Anne; but on the demise of that Princess, and in a country where the beauties of nature are more attended to than the decorations of art, this design was laid aside: in this park is constantly a
good

good stock of deer and other game, and the Keeper's Lodge at the farther end next the road side, is a delightful habitation. The present Keeper of this park is the Earl of Pomfret.

In the upper court of the castle, is a spacious and regular square, containing on the north side the royal apartments, and St. George's chapel and hall; on the south and the east sides are the royal apartments, those of the Prince of Wales, and the great officers of state; and in the centre of the area is an equestrian statue in copper of King Charles II. in the habit of one of the Cæsars, standing on a marble pedestal, adorned with various kinds of fruit, fish, shipping, and other ornaments.

The *Round Tower*, which forms the west side of this upper court, contains the governor's apartments. It is built on the highest part of the mount, and there is an ascent to it by a large flight of stone steps: these apartments are spacious and noble, and among the rest is a guard-room or magazine of arms. King Charles II. began to face this mount with brick, but only completed that part next the court. The present governor of this castle is the Duke of Montague. His lodgings command a most extensive view to London, and, as they say, into twelve counties. They also tell you, that in the guard-chamber, are the coats of mail of John, King of France, and David, King of Scotland, both prisoners here at the same time. The royal standard is raised on this tower on state-holidays, and when the king or the royal family reside here. On the opposite corner of the royal buildings is *King John's Tower*, so named from its being the apartment assigned to that French monarch, when he was prisoner in England.

The *Royal Apartments* are on the north side of this princely Castle, and commonly go under the name of the Star Building, from the garter and star largely displayed in gold, and fixed in the middle of the building on the outside next to the terrace.

The usual entrance into the apartments is from the upper court or ward, through a handsome Vestibule, supported by pillars of the Ionic order, with some antique brass bustos in the several niches of no great account; and also figures of a Roman vestal, and a slave in the action of picking a thorn out of his foot. The great stair-case is finely painted with several fabulous stories from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, particularly the story of Phaeton, who is represented on the dome petitioning Apollo for leave to drive the chariot of the sun; and on the stair-case, in large compartments, are the transformation of

Phaeton's sisters into poplars, their tears distilling amber from the trees, with this inscription, *Magnis tamen excidit Ausis, great events happen to the bold*: Also the story of Cynus, K. of Liguria, who, being inconsolable for Phaeton's death, was transformed into a swan. Over these, and on the several parts of the cieling, supported by the winds, are represented the signs of the zodiac, with baskets of flowers, beautifully disposed, and at each corner are the elements of earth, air, fire, and water, expressed by Cornucopias, birds, zephyrs, flaming censers, water nymphs with fishes, and a variety of other representations expressing each element; also Aurora, with her nymphs in waiting, giving water to her horses. In proper attitudes in several parts of this stair-case; are also represented comedy, tragedy, musick, painting, and other sciences, and the whole stair-case is beautifully disposed and heightened with gold, and has a view to the back stairs, whereon is painted the story of Meleager and Atalanta. The painting of this stair-case was by Sir James Thornhill.—We now proceed to a particular description of the principal apartments.

The Queen's Guard-Chamber.

This room, which is the first apartment into which you enter, is completely furnished with fire-arms, as guns, bayonets, pikes, bandoleers, &c. beautifully ranged and disposed into various forms, with the star and garter, the royal cypher, and other ornaments intermixed, cut in lime-wood. Over the chimney, is a full portrait of prince George of Denmark in armour on horseback, by Dahl, with a view of shipping, by Vandewell: on the cieling is Britannia, in the person of Queen Catherine of Portugal, consort to King Charles II. seated on a globe, bearing the arms of England and Portugal, with the four quarters of the world, viz. Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, and their respective symbols attended by deities, presenting their several offerings. The signs of the zodiack are on the outer part of this beautiful representation. In different parts of the cieling are Mars, Venus, Juno, Minerva, and other heathen deities, with zephyrs, cupids, and other embellishments properly disposed.

The Queen's Presence-Chamber.

On the cieling of this room Queen Catherine is represented attended by religion, prudence, fortitude, and other virtues: she is under a curtain spread by time, and supported by zephyrs,
while

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while fame sounds the happiness of Britain; below, Justice is driving away envy, sedition, and other evil genii. The room is hung with tapestry, containing the history of the beheading of St. Paul, and the persecution of the primitive Christians; and adorned with the pictures of Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Reni; a magdalen, by Sir Peter Lely; and a Prometheus by young Palma.

The Queen's Audience-Room.

On the cieling is Britannia represented in the person of Queen Catherine, in a car drawn by swans to the temple of virtue, attended by Flora, Ceres, Pomona, &c. with other decorations heightened with gold. The canopy is of fine English velvet, set up by Queen Anne; and the tapestry was made at Coblenz in Germany, and presented to King Henry VIII. The pictures hung up in this room, are, a Magdalen by moonlight, by Carracci; St. Stephen stoned, by Rotterman; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Reni.

The Ball Room.

On the cieling King Charles II. is represented giving freedom to Europe by the figures of Perseus and Andromeda; on the shield of Perseus is inscribed *Perseus Britannicus*, and over the head of Andromeda is wrote *Europa Liberata*, and Mars attended by the celestial deities, offers the olive branch. On the coving of this chamber is the story of Perseus and Andromeda, the four seasons, and the signs of the Zodiac, the whole heightened with gold. The tapestry, which was made at Brussels, and set up by King Charles II. represents the seasons of the year; and the room is adorned with the following pictures, the Roman Charity, after Tintoret; Duns Scotus, by Spagnoletto; a Madona, by Titian; Fame, by Palmegiani; the Arts and Sciences, also by Palmegiani; and Pan and Syrinx, by Stanick.

The Queen's Drawing Room.

On the cieling is painted the assembly of the gods and goddesses, the whole intermixed with cupids, flowers, &c. and heightened with gold. The room is hung with tapestry representing the twelve months of the year, and adorned with the pictures of Lot and his daughters, after Angelo; Lady Digby,

Digby, wife of Sir Kenelm Digby, by Vandyke; a sleeping Venus, by Poussin; a family in the character of Mark Anthony and Cleopatra, by De Bray; a Spanish family, after Titian; and a flower piece by Varelst.

The Queen's Bed-Chamber.

The bed of state is rich flowered velvet made in Spitalfields, by order of Queen Anne, and the tapestry, which represents the harvest season, was also made at London, by Poyntz. The cieling is painted with the story of Diana and Endymion, and the room is adorned with the pictures of the holy family, by Raphael; Herod's cruelty, by Julio Romano; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido.

The Room of Beauties.

This is so named from the portraits of the most celebrated beauties in the reign of King Charles II. They are fourteen in number, viz. Lady Ossory, the Duchess of Somerset, the Duchess of Cleveland, Lady Gramont, the Countess of Northumberland, the Duchess of Richmond, Lady Biron, Mrs. Middleton, Lady Denham and her sister, Lady Rochester, Lady Sunderland, Mrs. Dawson, and Mrs. Knott. These are all original paintings drawn to great perfection by Sir Peter Lely.

The Queen's Dressing-Room.

In this room are the following portraits: Queen Henrietta Maria, wife to King Charles I. Queen Mary, when a child, and Queen Catherine; these three are all done by Vandyke; the Duchess of York, mother to Queen Mary and Queen Anne, by Sir Peter Lely.

In this room is a closet wherein are several paintings, and in particular a portrait of the Countess of Desmond, who is said to have lived to within a few days of an hundred and fifty years of age; also a portrait of Erasmus and other learned men. In this closet is likewise the banner of France annually delivered on the second of August by the Duke of Marlborough, by which he holds Blenheim house, built at Woodstock in Oxfordshire in the reign of Queen Anne, as a national reward to that great General for his many glorious victories over the French.

Queen

Queen Elizabeth's, or the Picture Gallery.

This is richly adorned with the following paintings: King James I. and his Queen, whole lengths, by Vanfomer; Rome in flames, by Julio Romano; a Roman family, by Titian; the holy family, after Raphael; Judith and Holofernes, by Tintoret; a night piece, by Skalkin; the pool of Bethesda, by Tintoret; a portrait of Charles VI. Emperor of Germany, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the wise men making their offerings to Christ, by Paulo Veronese; two usurers, an admired piece, by the famous blacksmith of Antwerp; Perseus and Andromeda, by Schiavone; Aretine and Titian, by Titian; the Duke of Gloucester, a whole length, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Prince George of Denmark, a whole length by Dahl; King Henry VIII. by Hans Holbein; Vandanelli, an Italian statuary, by Correggio; the founders of different orders in the Romish church, by Titian and Rembrandt; a rural piece in low life, by Bassano; a fowl piece, by Varelst; the battle of Spurs near Terevaen in France, in 1513, by Hans Holbein; two views of Windsor castle, by Wofterman, and two Italian markets, by Michael Angelo. In this room is also a curious amber cabinet, presented by the King of Prussia to Queen Caroline.

There is here likewise Queen Caroline's china closet, filled with a great variety of curious china elegantly disposed, and the whole room is finely gilt and ornamented; over the chimney are the pictures of Prince Arthur and his two sisters, the children of King Henry VII. by Holbein; and in this closet is also a fine amber cabinet, presented to Queen Anne, by Dr. Robinson, Bishop of London, and plenipotentiary at the congress of Utrecht.

The King's Closet.

The cieling of this is adorned with the story of Jupiter and Leda. Among the curiosities in this room is a large frame of needle work, said to be wrought by Mary Queen of Scots, while a prisoner in Forthinghay castle; among other figures, she herself is represented supplicating for justice before the Virgin Mary, with her son, afterwards King James I. standing by her; in a scroll is worked these words *Sapientiam amavi et exquisivi a juventute mea*. This piece of work, after its having lain a long time in the wardrobe, was set up by order of Queen Anne. The pictures are, a Magdalen, by Carracci; a sleep-

a sleeping cupid, by Correggio; contemplation, by Carracci; Titian's daughter, by herself; and a German Lady, by Raphael.

The King's Dressing Room.

The cieling of this is painted with the story of Jupiter and Danaë; and adorned with the pictures of the birth of Jupiter, by Julio Romano; and of a naked Venus asleep, by Sir Peter Lely.

The King's Bed-Chamber.

This is hung with tapestry, representing the story of Hero and Leander; the bed of state, which was set up in the reign of King Charles II. is of fine blue cloth, richly embroidered with gold and silver; and on the cieling that Prince is represented in the robes of the garter, under a canopy supported by Time, Jupiter and Neptune, with a wreath of laurel over his head; and he is attended by Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, paying their obeisance to him. The paintings are, King Charles II. when a boy, in armour, by Vandyke; and St. Paul stoned at Lystra, by Paulo Veronese.

The King's Drawing-Room.

On the cieling is King Charles II. riding in a triumphal car, drawn by the horses of the sun, attended by Fame, Peace, and the polite arts; Hercules is driving away rebellion, sedition and ignorance; Britannia and Neptune, properly attended, are paying obeisance to the monarch as he passes; and the whole is a representation of the restoration of that monarch, and the introduction of arts and sciences in these kingdoms. In the other parts of the cieling are painted the labours of Hercules, with festoons of fruit and flowers, the whole beautifully decorated in gold and stone colour. The pictures hung up in this room are, a converted Chinese, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the Marquis of Hamilton, after Vandyke, by Hanneman; Herodias's daughter, by Carlo Dolci; a Magdalen, by Carlo Dolci; and a Venetian Lady, by Titian.

The King's Public Dining-Room.

On the cieling is painted the banquet of the gods, with a variety of fish and fowl. The pictures hung up here are, the portraits of his present Majesty, and the late Queen Caroline,

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roline, whole lengths; Hercules and Omphale, Cephalus and Procris, the birth of Venus, and Venus and Adonis, the four last by Genario; a naval triumph of King Charles II. by Verrio; the marriage of St. Catharine, by Dawkers; nymphs and satyrs, by Rubens and Snyders; hunting the wild boar, by Snyders; a picture of still life, by Girardo; the taking of the bears, by Snyders; a night piece, being a family singing by candle light, by Quistin; a Bohemian family, by De Brie; divine love, by an unknown hand; and Lacy, a famous comedian in King Charles the Second's time, in three characters, by Wright.

Many of the paintings in this room are best seen at noon by the reflection of the sun; the carving of this chamber is very beautiful, representing a great variety of fowl, fish and fruit, done to the utmost perfection on lime wood, by Mr. Gibbons, a famous statuary and carver in the reign of King Charles II.

The King's Audience-Chamber.

On the cieling is represented the establishment of *pure religion* in these nations on the restoration of that *pious Prince*, Charles II. in the characters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, attended by faith, hope, charity, and the cardinal virtues; religion triumphs over superstition and hypocrisy, which are driven by Cupids from before the face of the church; all which appear in proper attitudes, and the whole highly finished. The paintings in this room are, Our Saviour before Pilate, by Michael Angelo; the Apostles at our Saviour's tomb, by Schiavoni; Peter, James, and John, by Michael Angelo; and the Dutchess of Richmond, by Vandyke. The canopy of this room is of green velvet, embroidered with gold, very rich, set up in the reign of King Charles II.

The King's Presence-Chamber.

On the cieling is Mercury, with an exceeding good original portrait of King Charles II. which he shews to the four quarters of the world, introduced by Neptune; Fame declaring the glory of that prince, and Time driving away rebellion, sedition, and their companions. Over the canopy is Justice in stone-colour, shewing the arms of Britain to Thames and his river nymphs, with the star of Venus, and this label, *Syds Carolinum*; at the lower end of the chamber is Venus in a sea car, drawn by Tritons and sea nymphs.

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This cieling is in all parts beautifully painted, and highly ornamented with gold and stone-colour. The paintings in this room are, Henry Duke of Gloucester, brother to King Charles II. by Vandyke; the Countess of Dorset his governess, by ditto; Father Paul the Venetian, by Tintoret; the tapestry of this chamber, is the history of Queen Athaliah.

The King's Guard-Chamber.

In this spacious and noble room is a large magazine of arms, viz. pikes, pistols, guns, coats of mail, swords, halberds, bayonets, drums, &c. to the amount of some thousands, all beautifully disposed in colonades, pillars, circles, shields, and other devices in a most curious manner, ranged by Mr. Harris, late master-gunner of the castle, the same person who made that beautiful arrangement of the small arms in the great armoury in the Tower of London, and at Hampton-court, and whom we have before spoken of.

The cieling is painted in water-colours: in one circle is peace and plenty, and in the other Mars and Minerva. In the dome, is a representation of Mars, and the whole room is decorated with instruments of war adapted to the chamber. Over the chimney is a portrait, as large as life, of Charles XI. King of Sweden, on horseback, by Wyck. And over the door they shew the armour of Edward the Black Prince.

In this room the Knights of the Garter dine in great state at an Installation, in the absence of the Sovereign.

St. George's Hall.

This Hall is particularly set apart to the honour of the order of the garter, and is one of the noblest rooms in Europe, both with regard to the building and the painting, which is here performed in the most grand taste. In a large oval in the centre of the cieling King Charles II. is represented in the habit of the order, attended by England, Scotland and Ireland; religion and plenty hold the crown of these kingdoms over his head; Mars and Mercury, with the emblems of war and peace stand on each side. In the same oval regal government is represented upheld by religion and eternity, with Justice attended by fortitude, temperance and prudence, beating down rebellion and faction. Towards the throne is represented in an octagon St. George's cross incircled with the

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the garter, within a star or glory supported by Cupids, with the motto,

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE;

and besides other embellishments relating to the order, the muses are represented attending in full concert.

On the back of the state, or Sovereign's throne, is a large drapery, on which is painted St. George encountering the dragon, as large as the life, and on the lower border of the drapery is inscribed,

VENIENDO RESTITUIT REM,

in allusion to King William III. who is painted in the habit of the order, sitting under a royal canopy, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. To the throne is an ascent by five steps of fine marble, to which the painter has added five more, which are done with such perfection as to deceive the sight, and induce the spectator to think them equally real.

This noble room is an hundred and eight feet in length, and the whole north side is taken up with the triumph of Edward the Black Prince, after the manner of the Romans. At the upper part of the hall is Edward III. that Prince's father, the conqueror of France and Scotland, and the founder of the order of the garter, seated on a throne, receiving the Kings of France and Scotland prisoners; the Black Prince is seated in the middle of the procession, crowned with laurel, and carried by slaves; preceded by captives, and attended by the emblems of victory, liberty, and other ensignia of the Romans, with the banners of France and Scotland displayed. The painter has given a loose to his fancy by closing the procession with the fiction of the Countess of Salisbury, in the person of a fine lady, making garlands for the Prince, and the representation of the merry wives of Windsor.

At the lower end of the hall is a noble music gallery, supported by slaves, larger than the life, in proper attitudes, said to represent a father and his three sons, taken prisoners by the Black Prince in his wars abroad. Over this gallery on the lower compartment of the cieling is the collar of the order of the garter fully displayed. The painting of this room was done by Verrio, and is highly finished and heightened with gold.

The King's Chapel.

This chapel is decorated in a very gay and splendid manner. On the cieling is finely represented our Lord's ascension; and

the altar piece is adorned with a noble painting of the last supper. The north side of the chapel is ornamented with the representation of our Saviour's raising Lazarus from the dead, his curing the sick of the palsy, and other miracles, beautifully painted by Verrio; and in a group of spectators the painter has introduced his own effigy, with those of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. Cooper, who assisted him in these paintings. The east end of this chapel is taken up with the closets belonging to his Majesty and the Royal family. The canopy, curtains, and furniture are of crimson velvet, fringed with gold; and the carved work of this chapel, which is well worthy the attention of the curious, is done by that famous artist Gibbons, in lime-tree, representing a great variety of pelicans, doves, palms, and other allusions to scripture history, with the star and garter, and other ornaments finished to great perfection.

St. George's Chapel.

This antient structure, which is situated in the middle of the lower court, is in the purest style of Gothic architecture, and was first erected by King Edward III. in the year 1337, soon after the foundation of the college, for the honour of the order of the garter, and dedicated to St. George, the patron of England; but however noble the first design might be, King Edward IV. not finding it entirely completed, enlarged the structure and designed the present building, together with the houses of the dean and canons, situated on the north and west sides of the chapel; the work was afterwards carried on by Henry VII. who finished the body of the chapel, and Sir Reginald Bray, knight of the garter, and the favourite of that King, assisted in ornamenting the chapel and completing the roof.

The architecture of the inside has always been esteemed for its neatness and great beauty, and in particular the stone roof is reckoned an excellent piece of workmanship. It is an ellipsis supported by Gothic pillars, whose ribs and groins sustain the whole cieling, every part of which has some different device well finished, as the arms of Edward the Confessor, Edward III. Henry VI. Edward IV. Henry VII. and Henry VIII. also the arms of England and France quarterly, the cross of St. George, the rose, portcullis, lion rampant, unicorn, &c. In a chapel in the south isle is represented in ancient painting, the history of John the Baptist, and in the same isle are painted on large pannels of oak, neatly carved
and

and decorated with the several devices peculiar to each Prince, the portraits at full length of Prince Edward, son to Henry VI. Edward IV. Edward V. and Henry VII. In the north isle is a chapel dedicated to St. Stephen, wherein the history of that saint is painted on the pannels and well preserved. In the first of these pannels St. Stephen is represented preaching to the people; in the second he is before Herod's tribunal; in the third he is stoning; and in the fourth he is represented dead. At the east end of this isle is the chapter house of the college, in which is a portrait at full length, by a masterly hand, of the victorious Edward III. in his robes of state, holding in his right hand a sword, and bearing the crowns of France and Scotland, in token of the many victories he gained over those nations. On one side of this painting is kept the sword of that great and warlike Prince.

But what appears most worthy of notice is the choir. On each side are the stalls of the Sovereign and Knights companions of the most noble order of the garter, with the helmet, mantling, crest, and sword, of each Knight, set up over his stall on a canopy of antient carving curiously wrought, and over the canopy is affixed the banner or arms of each Knight properly blazoned on silk, and on the back of the stalls are the titles of the Knights, with their arms neatly engraved and blazoned on copper. The Sovereign's stall is on the right hand of the entrance into the choir, and is covered with purple velvet and cloth of gold, and has a canopy and compleat furniture of the same valuable materials; his banner is likewise of velvet, and his mantling of cloth of gold. The Prince's stall is on the left, and has no distinction from those of the rest of the Knights companions, the whole society, according to the statutes of the institution, being companions and colleagues, equal in honour and power.

The altar piece was, soon after the restoration, adorned with cloth of gold and purple damask by King Charles II. but on removing the wainscot of one of the chapels in 1707, a fine painting of the Lord's supper was found, which being approved of by Sir James Thornhill, Verrio, and other eminent masters, was repaired and placed on the altar piece.

Near the altar is the Queen's gallery, for the accommodation of the ladies at an installation.

In a vault under the marble pavement of this choir, are interred the bodies of Henry VIII. and Jane Seymour his Queen, King Charles I. and a daughter of the late Queen

Anne.

Anne. In the south isle, near the door of the choir, is buried Henry VI. and the arch near which he was interred was sumptuously decorated by Henry VIII. with the royal ensigns and other devices, but they are now much defaced by time.

In this chapel is also the monument of Edward Earl of Lincoln, Lord high Admiral of England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, erected by his Lady, who is also interred with him. The monument is of alabaster, with pillars of porphyry.

Another, within a neat screen of brass work, is erected to the memory of Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester, and Knight of the garter, who died in 1526, and his lady, daughter to William Earl of Huntingdon.

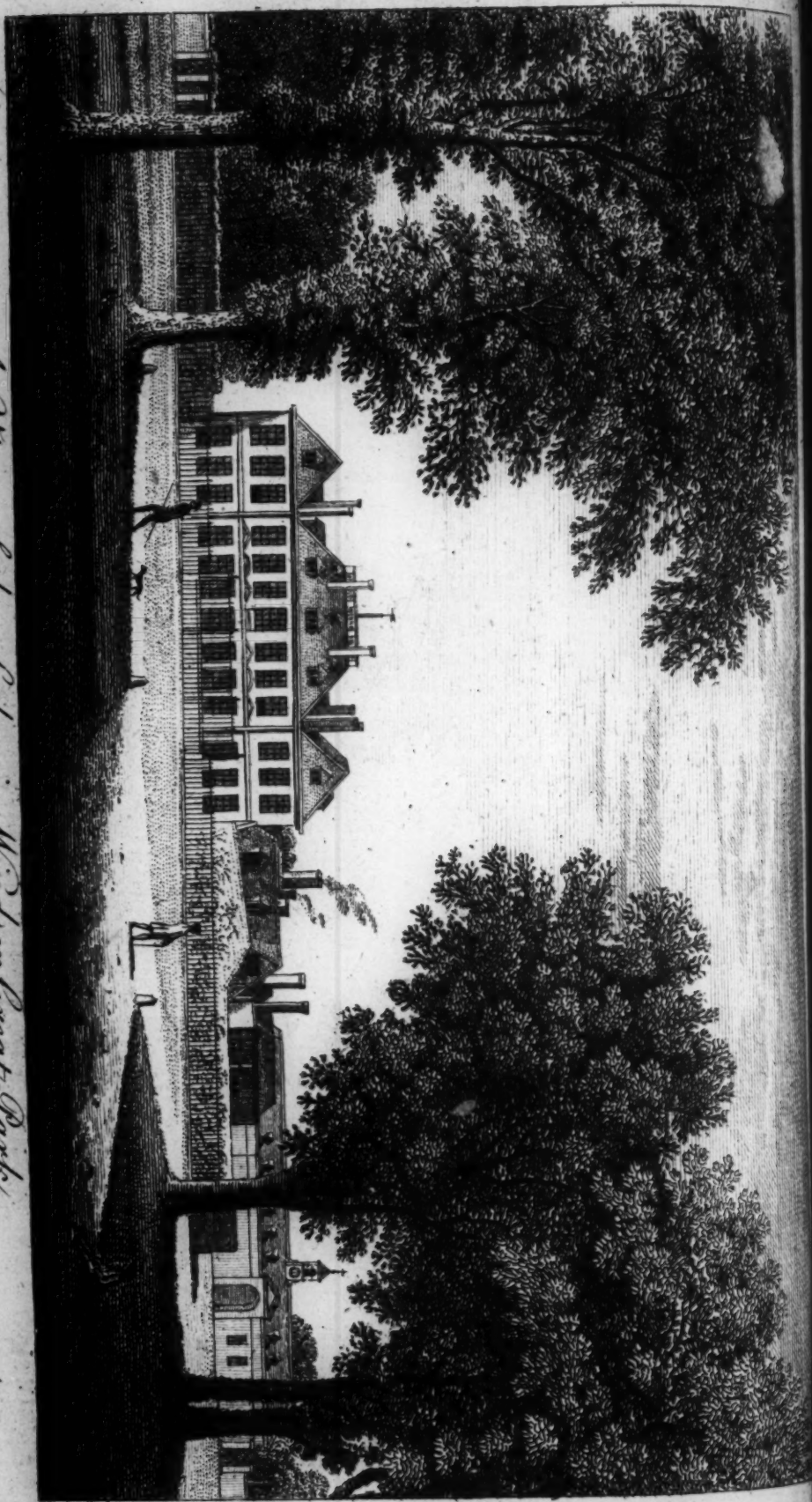
Also a stately monument of white marble erected to the memory of Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, and Knight of the garter, who died in 1699. There are here also the tombs of Sir George Manners, Lord Roos; that of the Lord Hastings, Chamberlain to Edward IV. and several others.

The Tomb-House.

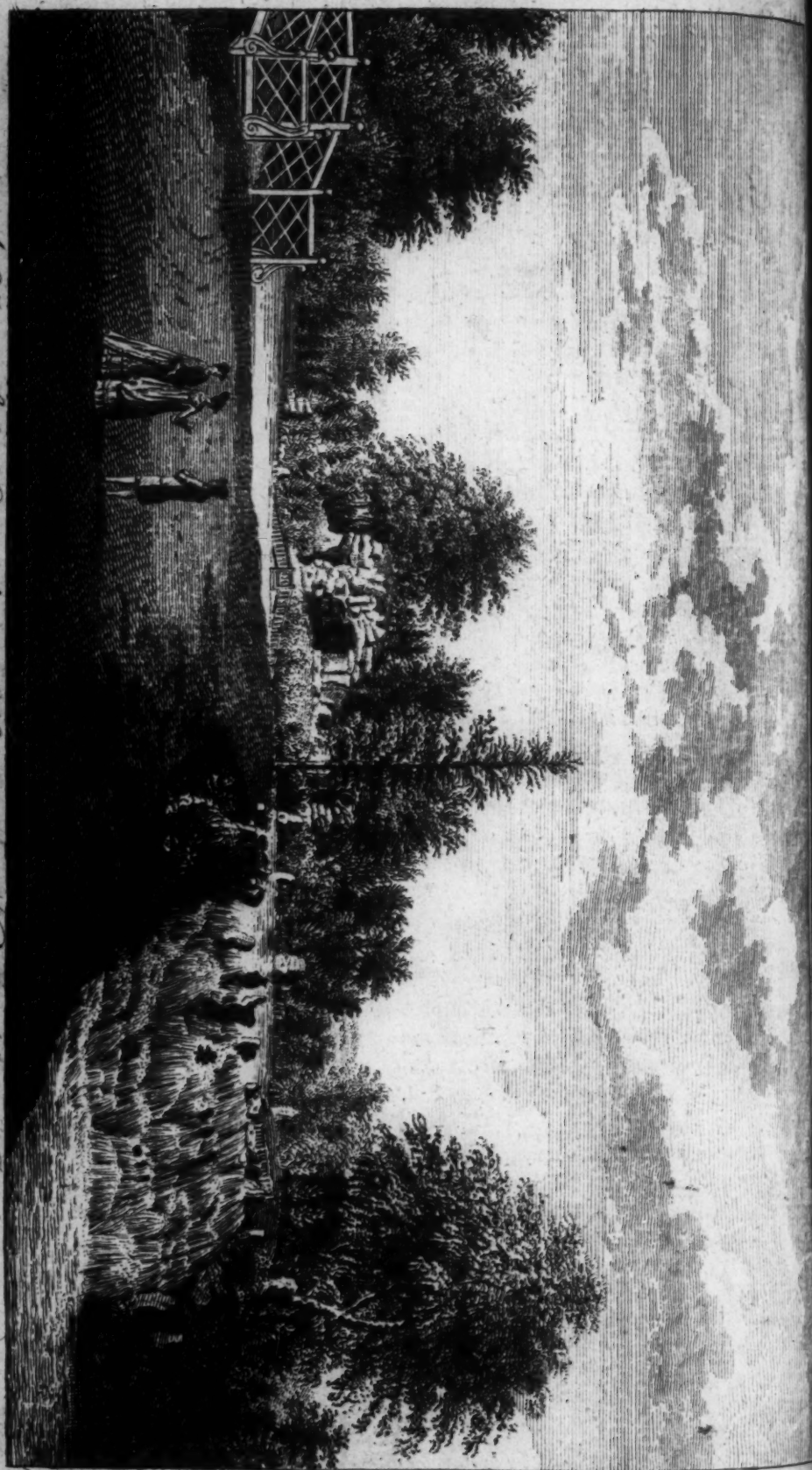
This edifice, which is adjoining to the east-end of St. George's Chapel, was erected by King Henry VII. for a burial place for himself and those who should succeed him on the throne of England: but this prince afterwards altering his purpose, began the more noble edifice at Westminster; and this fabric remained neglected till Cardinal Wolsey obtained a grant of it from Henry VIII. and then designed and began here a most sumptuous monument for himself, from whence this building obtained the name of *Wolsey's Tomb-house*; and some have erroneously supposed, that the whole building was at first erected by that famous Cardinal. Lord Bacon observes, that this monument "far exceeded that of King Henry VII. in Westminster-Abbey;" and at the time of the Cardinal's disgrace, and his loss of the King's favour, the design had been so far executed, that 4250 ducats had been paid to the statuary for executing that part of the work which was then done. But the Cardinal dying soon after his retirement from court, was privately buried in the chapel of Leicester Abbey, and this monument remained unfinished; and at last, in 1646, became the plunder of the parliamentary soldiers. — King James II. afterwards converted this building into a Popish chapel.

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A View of the Lodge in Windsor Great Park.



A View of the Cascade and Follies in Windsor Great Park.



chapel, and mass was publickly performed here; since which it has been entirely neglected, and suffered to run to ruin.

We shall now proceed to speak of *Windsor Great Park*, which lays on the south side of the town, and opens by a most noble road, or *Long-Walk*, in a direct line, to the top of a delightful hill at the distance of near three miles. This road, through a double plantation of trees on each side, leads to the Ranger or Keeper's Lodge, the residence of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Cumberland, who greatly improved the natural beauties of this park, and by large plantations of trees, extensive lawns, new roads, spacious canals, and rivers of water, made this villa a most delightful habitation. This park is fourteen miles in circumference, and is well stocked with deer, and variety of other game. The late Duke was succeeded both in the rangerhip of this park, as also in title by his royal nephew, the present Duke of Cumberland.

The late erected building, or *Belvidere*, on Shrub's Hill, over a beautiful verdure and young plantation of trees, is very elegant, and affords the most delightful rural scene: the noble piece of water in the valley underneath, was effected at a large expence, and from a small stream or current of water, was made a spacious river, capable to carry barges and boats of pleasure, with freedom: his Royal Highness also erected over this river, a bridge of most curious architecture, on a noble and bold plan, being a single arch, one hundred and sixty-five feet wide: this piece of water was a great ornament to the park, and terminates in a grotto, and large cascade or fall of water; but has of late suffered damage by the breaking up of the head bank.

Neither was the attention of his Highness confined to the park only, but extended in like manner to the adjoining Forest, that scene of rural diversion, and place of residence of the royal game. Among the improvements here made by that Prince, the new two miles course on Ascot-Heath cannot be passed unnoticed: This race ground was laid out and brought into the most beautiful order at a large expence, and is one of the first courses in the kingdom. The forest is of great extent, and was appropriated to hunting, and the habitation of the King's deer, by William I. who established many laws and regulations which are at this time observed for the preservation of the royal game, and better regulation of the forest. In this extensive tract of land are several agreeable towns

towns and villages, of which Wokingham is the principal, and almost in the center of the forest; and although the land is generally barren and uncultivated, it affords great delight and pleasure in riding, by beautiful hills and vales, intermixed with fine lawns and herbage for cattle, also by the many agreeable habitations of gentlemen, whose

*Pleasant Villas intervene,
To grace the sweetly varied scene.*

And, if we consider the noble exercise of the chace which this forest admits of, the large verdures and shady plantations of oak, beech, and other trees, that so frequently abound in this delightful spot, it must be confessed that this park and forest are peculiarly adapted by nature to rural pleasure and delight; and that no just idea can be formed of the many beauties that here, on every side, offer to our sight, by the best description in prose: our great English poet, Mr. Pope, only can truly paint out these sylvan scenes and delightful habitations; whose Muse, (whilst himself resided in this Forest) produced one of the finest poems in our language, on this subject, and which he thus elegantly introduces,

*The groves of Eden, vanish'd now so long,
Live in description, and look green in song:
These, was my breast inspir'd with equal flame,
Like them in beauty, should be like in fame.
Here hills and vales, the woodland and the plain,
Here earth and water seem to meet again.
Not Chaos like, together crush'd and bruis'd;
But, as the world, harmoniously confus'd:
Where order in variety we see,
And where, tho' all things differ, all agree.
Here waving groves a chequer'd scene display,
And part admit, and part exclude the day;—
There, interspers'd in lawns and op'ning glades
Thin trees arise, that shun each other's shades.
Here in full light the russet plains extend;
There wrapt in clouds the blueish hills ascend;
Ev'n the wild heath displays her purple dyes,
And mid'st the desert, fruitful fields arise,
That crown'd with tufted trees and springing corn,
Like verdant isles the sable waste adorn.—*

*Not proud Olympus yields a nobler sight,
Tho' Gods assembled grace his tow'ring height,*

Than

*Than what more humble mountains offer here,
Where, in their blessings, all those Gods appear.*

Cranbourne Lodge in this neighbourhood, belonged also to his late royal highness, as ranger of the forest. This lodge is most pleasantly situated, and has an extensive prospect over a fine plain and country, forming a most beautiful landscape. In a spacious chamber of the house are painted and regularly ranged in large pannels, the military dresses of the different corps in the armies of Europe. The Duke of Gloucester is the present ranger of the forest, and great improvements have been made to this lodge by his highness. Opposite to the front of this lodge on the neighbouring plain, in the parish of *Wingfield*, is a handsome building erected and endowed by the late Earl of Ranelagh, sometime ranger of this forest, for the education of twenty boys and girls: on this pleasing spot or part of the forest are the villas of the late Mr. Buckley, Lady Beauclerk, Mr. Mitford, and other gentlemen; and at a small distance *Fern-Hill* offers to the sight on a delightful eminence.

St. Leonard's-Hill is adjoining to the Duke's lodge, and requires due notice, on account of the pleasing seat of Lillye Aynscombe, Esq; and the large plantation of oak and beech, which here form the most agreeable variety or face of nature. On the summit of the hill the Countess of Waldegrave has lately erected a noble edifice, which commands a most extensive and delightful prospect over the river Thames, and a most beautiful fruitful country.

Sunning-Hill which is at a small distance, is a very delightful part of the forest, and many gentlemen of fortune have here pleasing villas or lodgings for the summer-season, to drink the mineral waters, which in many cases are deemed beneficial to health. The wells are designed with some taste, and are neatly laid out: the assembly-house is handsome and spacious, with pleasant gardens. Public breakfastings are here every Monday morning, and frequent assemblies of gentlemen and ladies are held for the benefit of agreeable conversation, and to partake of the pleasing amusements of the country.

Swinley Lodge, which is not far from *Sunning-Hill*, belongs to the master of the buck-hounds. Here is always a number of deer, under his care and direction, kept for the royal chase. He appoints the days of hunting, takes care of the forest deer, and the King's stag and buck-hounds; and

for this purpose has many inferior officers under him, who superintend the several parts of the forest, divided into different walks or appointments.—Many other villages also partake of the pleasures of the forest, and surround this royal castle, as Ingfield-green, Old-Windsor, Datchet, &c. where gentlemen of fortune have their country seats. In the neighbourhood of Ingfield-green, and on the decline of the plain, is Cooper's-Hill, long since celebrated by Sir John Denham.

Old Windsor was formerly a place of note, and the residence of several of our Saxon monarchs before the time of William I. who fixed upon the adjacent hill for his residence: and by this means, together with the Castle, in a short time was raised a new town, while this once royal residence went to decay, and retained little more than the honour of its antiquity, and giving name to the whole country around.

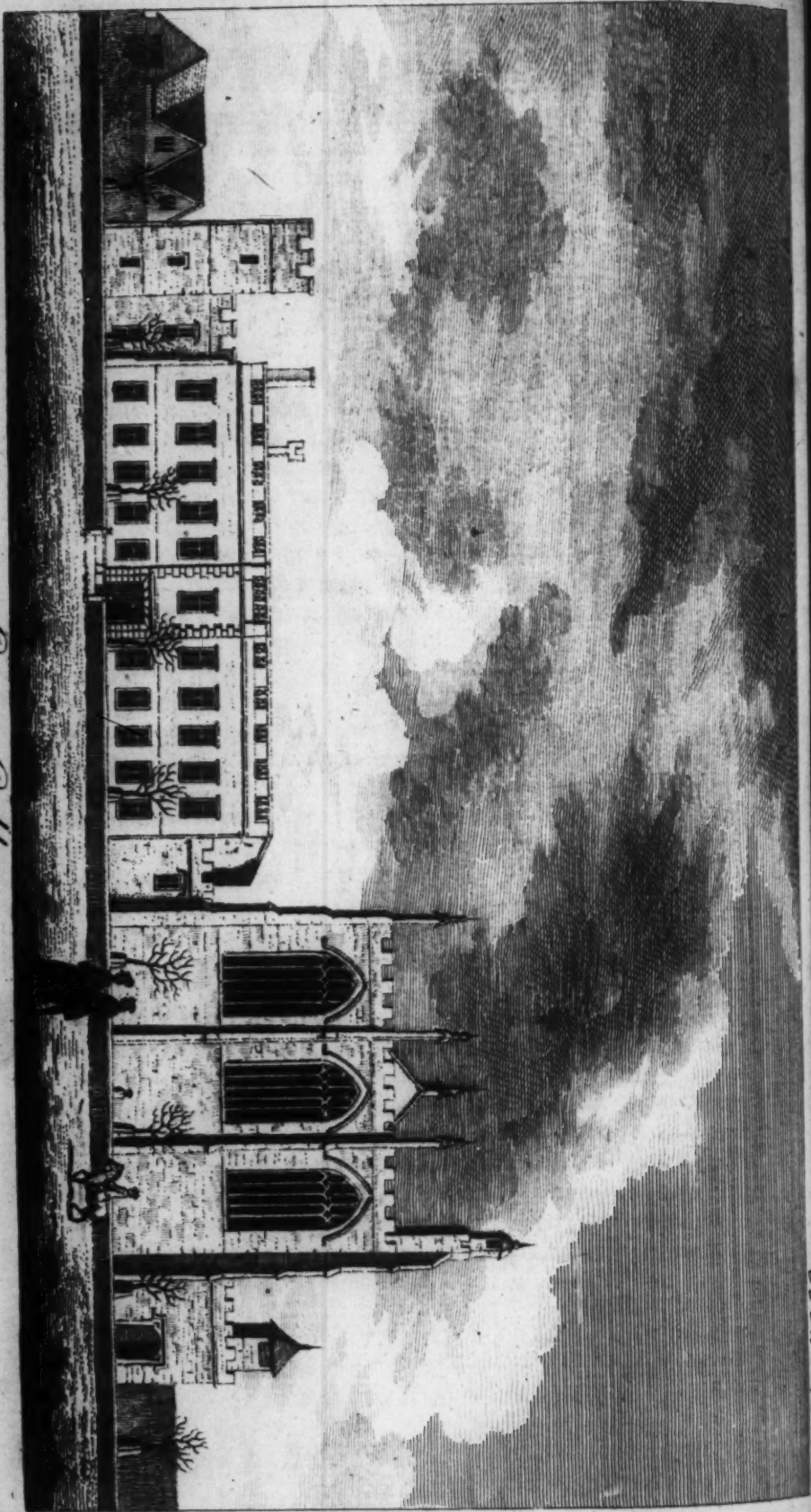
The hon. Mr. Bateman, Lord Mulgrave, Lady Primrose, and Colonel Montague, have here their residence in the summer-season: the houses of the three first are most agreeably situated on the banks of the Thames, and have large walks and gardens. The seat of Col. Montague, called Beaumont lodge, is on the hill, and commands a most extensive and delightful prospect of the river and country; the gardens are large and extend to Ingfield-Green, that lays behind. Mr. Bateman's House is a cabinet, or uncommon collection, of curiosities, chiefly antiques; by some approved, by others held too minute and inconsiderable. But upon the whole, this house and gardens are a most agreeable villa; and the plantations, or yew tree's shade, round the Church, add to the pleasing scene, and, together, form the most enchanting rural spot.

Datchet, also a pleasant village, lies higher up the river, and has the conveniency of a bridge built by Queen Anne, with an entrance into Windsor little park. The course of the river, and the road round the park wall is most agreeable, especially on summer evenings. This village has of late been much improved, and is inhabited by many gentlemen of fortune, on account of its pleasant situation and vicinity to Windsor.

E T O N.

Though Eton is in a different county, namely, Buckinghamshire, yet it may be said to be one and the same town with Windsor, by the ready communication of a bridge over
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Eton College.



the river. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames, in a delightful valley, and is in a remarkable healthy soil. It has long been celebrated for the college here, which has produced a great number of eminent and learned men. *Eton College* was founded by Henry VI. for the support of a provost and seven fellows, one of whom is vice-provost, and for the education of seventy King's scholars, as those are called, who are on the foundation. These when properly qualified, are elected, on the first Tuesday in August, to King's College, Cambridge, but they are not removed, till there are vacancies in the college, and then they are called according to seniority; and after they have been three years at Cambridge, they claim a fellowship. Besides those on the foundation, there are seldom less than three hundred scholars, at this time there are many more, who board at the masters houses, or within the bounds of the college. The school is divided into upper and lower, and each of these into three classes. To each school there is a master and four assistants or ushers. The revenue of the college is about 5000l. a year. Here is a noble library enriched by a fine collection of books left by Dr. Waddington, Bishop of Chester, valued at 2000l. and Lord Chief Justice Reeves presented to this library the collection left him by Richard Topham, Esq; keeper of the records in the Tower. In the great court is a fine statue of the founder, erected at the expence of the late provost Dr. Godolphin, Dean of St. Paul's. The chapel is in a good style of Gothic architecture. The schools and other parts, which are in the other style of building, are equally well, and seem like the design of Inigo Jones.

D I T T O N P A R K.

The antient and venerable mansion so called, which is situated in the parish of Datchet, was built by Sir Ralph Winwood, secretary of state to King James I. It came afterwards into the family of Montagu, and on the death of the late Duke, this house and manor of Datchet came to the Dutchess of Manchester, eldest daughter and joint heiress of that noble family. The house is built in the form of a Castle, surrounded by a large moat of water, and in the middle of a pleasant park, well planted with timber; the apartments are large, and beautifully painted, and in the picture gallery is a good collection of paintings, many of them by the first masters. Lord Beaulieu married the Dutchess of Manchester, and has much improved the house and gardens.

There are also several other fine seats in this neighbourhood; particularly *LANGLEY PARK*, the seat of the Duke of Marlborough. The house is a noble edifice built by the late Duke, all of stone, has commodious offices, and is most agreeably designed, situated in a large park, with shady walks, and has a beautiful lawn and canal: the banqueting-house on the rising ground of the park, adds to the prospect from the terrace of Windsor-Castle.

At a small distance is *Percy-Lodge*, the seat of the Earl of Tankerville. This was the residence of the late Duchess of Somerset, after the decease of the Duke. The gardens and park are large, and beautifully designed.

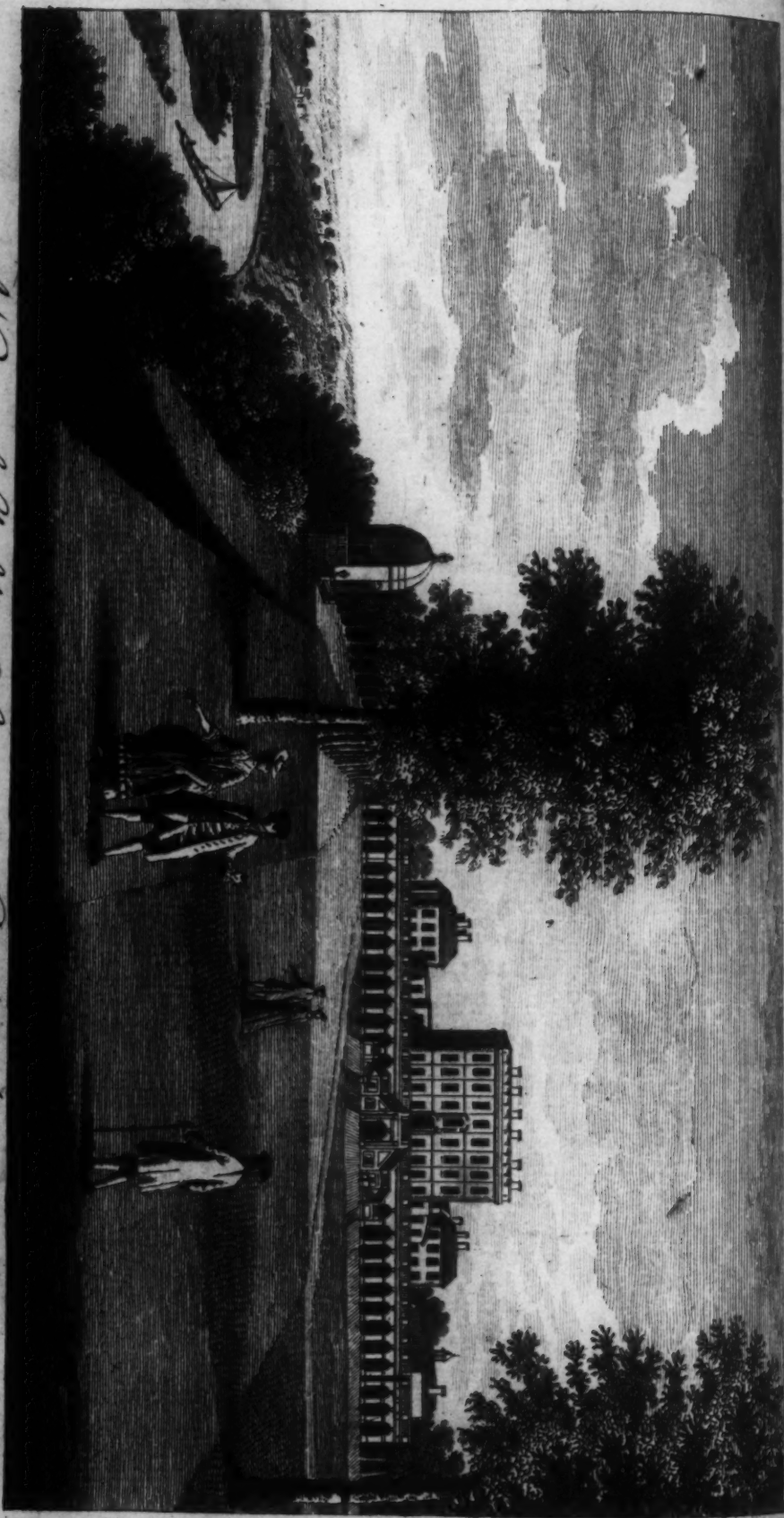
Langley-Green, *Wexham*, and *Stoke Green* are in this neighbourhood. In the first mentioned green, Lord Granard has lately built a commodious and elegant seat; and in these villages are many agreeable houses of gentlemen of fortune, who constantly reside here: in the last mentioned green Gen. Howard has a most pleasant seat and gardens.

Stoke-House lately belonged to the Lady Cobham, but on her decease was purchased by Mr. Penn, one of the proprietors and governors of Pennsylvania. It is an antient and noble edifice, with a large and pleasant park; and adjoining to the house is the parish-church of Stoke, and a neat hospital, built and endowed by a Countess of Huntingdon, for the support and maintenance of twelve old and indigent persons of both sexes. The scite of this antient hospital has of late been removed, and a new one built in an adjoining convenient part of the neighbourhood, by Mr. Penn.—*Baileys*, not far from hence, is an agreeable seat belonging to the Earl of Godolphin.

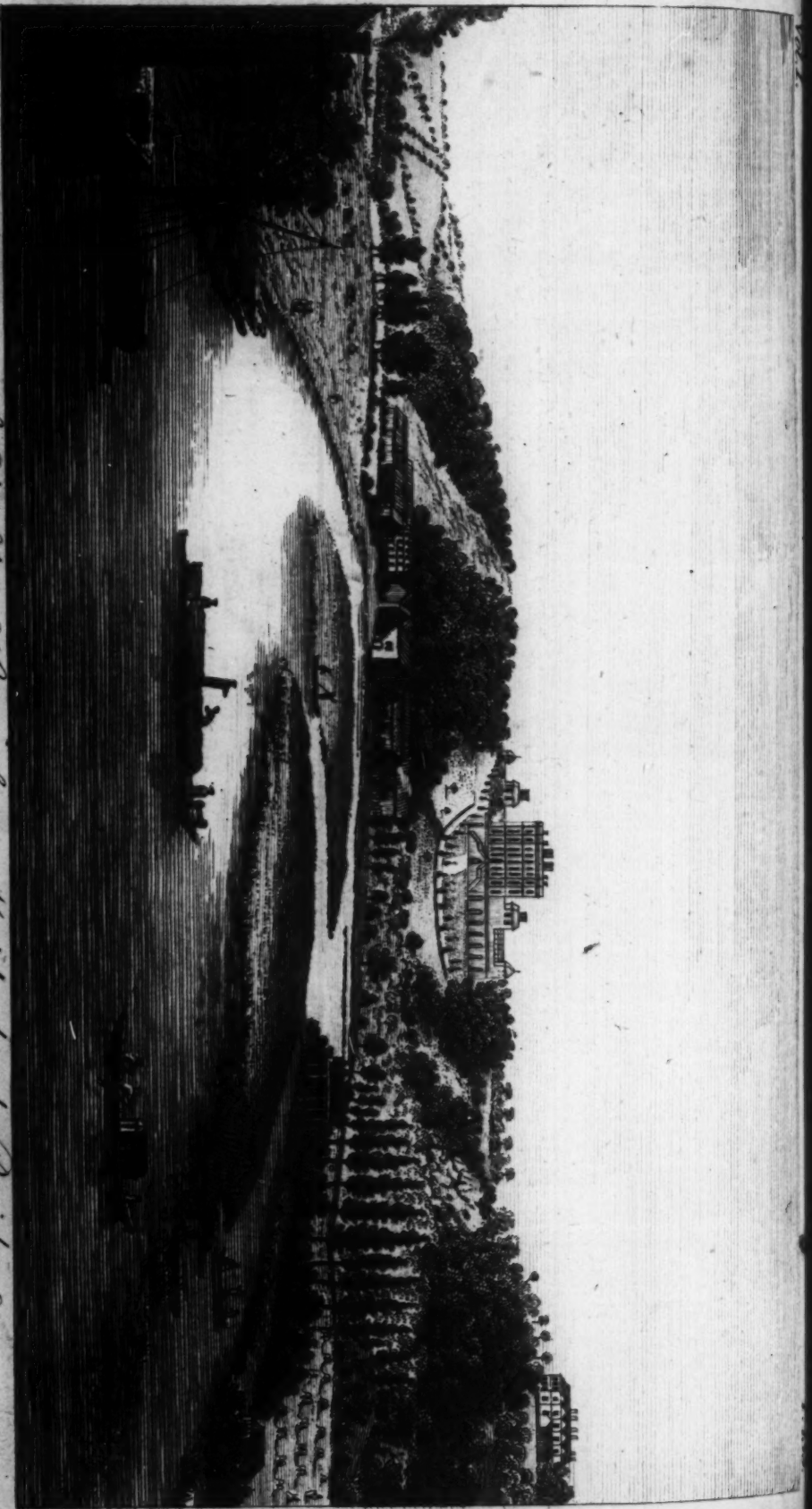
Farnham and *East-Burnham* are pleasant villages, and have many agreeable houses and villas, particularly the elegant house and gardens of Mr. Charles Eyre. Near Burnham is *Hitcham-House*, situated in a valley, which was formerly the country residence of that learned physician, Dr. Freind, to whose family it at present belongs, but is now in the possession of Lady Windsor. The gardens are large, and well-designed; and in the hall is an original painting of the late Queen Caroline, which that princess presented to Dr. Freind.

The village of *Taploe*, which is not far distant, is of so pleasant a situation, that it has caused many gentlemen of fortune of late to reside here, who have built very agreeable houses. The manor-house on the summit of the hill is an antient

View of Heftden House in Buckinghamshire.



A View of Cliefden House from Maidenhead Bridge.



antient and noble building, and enjoys a most beautiful prospect over the country, and the river Thames, which runs underneath. This house belongs to the Earl of Inchiquin, who resided here during the life of the late Prince of Wales; but on his highness's death, his lordship removed to Cliefden House, in the neighbourhood.

C L I E F D E N - H O U S E.

This seat, which is in Buckinghamshire, five miles north-west of Windsor, is remarkable, both on account of its most beautiful situation, and also because it was the ordinary residence of the late Prince of Wales, father to the present King. The house was built by George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of King Charles II. and came by marriage of the heiress of that family to the late Earl of Orkney, who greatly improved both the house and gardens, which were also farther extended and enlarged by the late Prince of Wales, and made most delightful, insomuch that in every part, or wherever the eye is turned, nothing offers to the sight but the most agreeable avenues, parterres, and fine lawns, and these heightened by an extensive view of the river Thames, and a most beautiful and well cultivated country: the house is a stately regular edifice, and the rooms spacious and noble: in the grand chamber the tapestry hangings represent the battles of the late Duke of Marlborough, wrought to great perfection, by order of the late Earl of Orkney, who was himself an officer of superior rank in those glorious campaigns: on the front of the house is raised a most noble terrace or walk, which is said to be higher than the terrace of Windsor-Castle; it is certain, the prospect here is equally extensive and beautiful.

DAWNEY COURT is the seat of Sir Charles Palmer, Bart. of the family of Roger Palmer, Earl of Castlemain, who was sent by King James II. on the costly embassy to Rome in the year 1687; and the magnificent state-coach, made use of by that nobleman on that ignominious occasion, was many years kept here,

UNDERCOMBE is the agreeable seat of Thomas Eyre, Esq; and here are also the ruins of the antient nunnery of Burnham. It was of the order of St. Austin, and consisted of an abbess, and seven or eight nuns. It was founded by Richard, King of the Romans, in the year 1165, and dedicated to the virgin Mary.

COLEBROOK, or COLNBROOK.

This town, part of which is in Buckinghamshire, and part in Middlesex, is eighteen miles from London. It stands on four channels of the river Coln, over each of which it has a bridge. The principal support of the place are the inns, on account of its being in the Bath road. The market is on Wednesdays, and a fair is held here the third Week in April. Here is a charity-school, and an ancient chapel, said to have been founded by King Edward III.

UXBRIDGE.

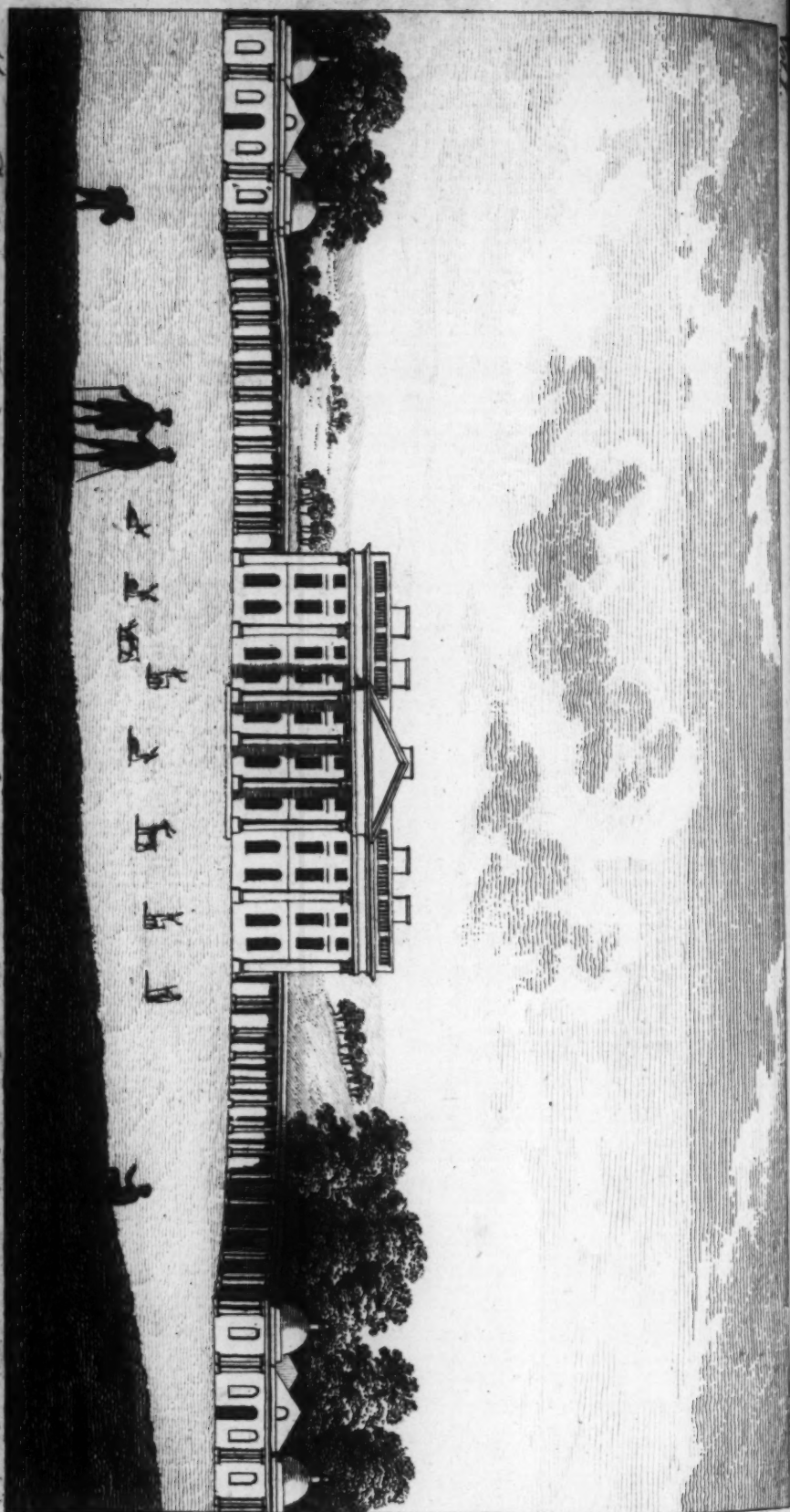
This is a town in Middlesex, in the road to Oxford, eighteen miles and an half from London. Though it is entirely independent, and is governed by two bailiffs, two constables, and four headboroughs, it is only a hamlet to Great Hillindon. The river Coln runs through it in two streams, full of trout, eels, and other fish, and over the main stream is a stone bridge that leads into Buckinghamshire. The church, or rather chapel, was built in the reign of Henry VI. This town has many good inns, and is particularly distinguished by the whiteness of the bread, particularly their rolls. There are many corn-mills at a small distance, and a considerable number of waggon loads of meal are carried from thence every week to London. Uxbridge gives the title of Earl to the noble family of Paget.

At the village of *Hillingdon*, which is a mile from Uxbridge, is a church wherein lies buried John Lord Strange, who married Jaquetta, sister to Elizabeth, Queen of England, wife of King Edward I.

RICKMANSWORTH.

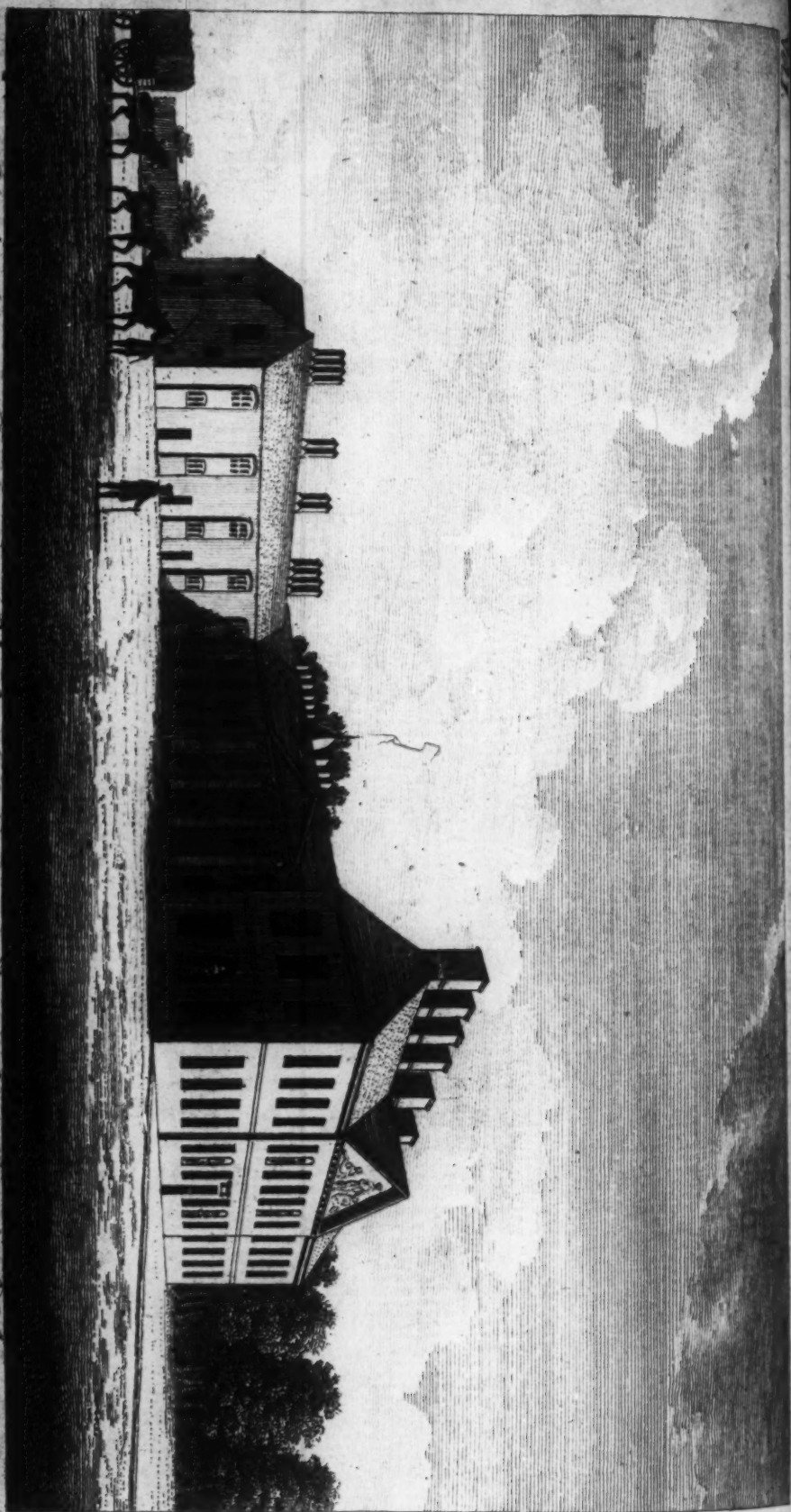
This is a town in Hertfordshire, at the distance of nineteen miles from London. It is situated in a low moorish soil on the borders of Buckinghamshire, near the river Coln. It has a market on Saturday, and is governed by a constable and two headboroughs. The several mills on the streams near this town cause a great quantity of wheat to be brought to it. Here is a charity school for twenty boys and ten girls, with an almshouse for five widows, and another for four. In the neighbourhood is a warren hill, where the sound of the trumpet is repeated twelve times by the echo.

MOOR



Moor Park, near Rickmansworth in Hertfordshire, the Seat of the late Lord Shrewsbury.

Cashbury Park in Hertfordshire, the Seat of the Earl of Essex.



M O O R P A R K.

Near Rickmansworth, on the left, is MOOR PARK, which was the seat of Lord Anson, but at present belongs to Sir Lawrence Dundas, Bart. The park is not large, but is very beautiful, whether we consider it within itself or with regard to the fine and extensive prospects from it. The house was originally built by Cardinal Wolsey, and, passing through many hands, was afterwards in possession of the Duke of Monmouth. Then it came into the hands of Mr. Stiles, who enlarged, repaired, and beautified it, under the direction of Sir James Thornhill. It stands on a hill, not quite on the summit. It is of stone of the Corinthian order; and, if not in the highest stile of architecture, is yet very noble. The south, or principal front, has a portico and pediment of four columns. The offices are joined to the house by a beautiful circular colonade of the Ionic order, which terminates very elegantly with domes on each side their entrance.

W A T F O R D.

This is a market-town in Hertfordshire, sixteen miles from London. It is situated upon the river Coln, where it has two streams that run separately to Rickmansworth. The town is very long, but consists of only one street, which is extremely dirty in winter, and the waters of the river at the entrance of the town, were frequently so much swelled by floods as to be impassable: but in the year 1750, the road at the entrance of Watford was raised by a voluntary contribution; by which means the river is now confined within its proper bounds. In the church are several handsome monuments; there are also a free school and several alms-houses belonging to the town.

C A S H I O B U R Y P A R K.

This is a little beyond Watford, on the left, and is said to have been the seat of the Kings of Mercia, during the Heptarchy, till Offa gave it to the monastery of St. Alban's. Henry VIII. bestowed it on Richard Morison, Esq; from whom it passed to Arthur Lord Capel, Baron of Hadham, and from him came by inheritance to be the manor of the Earls of Essex, who have here a noble seat in the form of an H, with a large park adorned with fine woods and walks:
the

the gardens were planted and laid out by Le Notre in the reign of King Charles II. The front and one side are of brick and modern, the other side is very old.

S A I N T A L B A N ' s .

This is a large and very ancient town in Hertfordshire, twenty-one miles from London, and was so called from St. Alban, who suffered in the persecution under Dioclesian, and being afterwards canonized, and interred on a hill in the neighbourhood of this town, a monastery was erected and dedicated to him by King Offa. King Edward I. erected a magnificent cross here in memory of Queen Eleanor; and King Edward VI. incorporated this town by a charter, granting the inhabitants a Mayor, a Steward, a Chamberlain, and ten Burgesses: but the Mayor and Steward are here the only Justices of peace. Here are three churches, besides the ancient cathedral called St. Alban's, belonging to the monastery, which is now a parish church.

In this ancient edifice is a funeral monument and effigies of King Offa, its founder, who is represented seated on his throne; and underneath is the following inscription:

Fundator Ecclesie circa annum 793.

Quem male depictum, et residentem cernitis alte
Sublimem solio, MERCIUS OFFA fuit.

That is,

The founder of the church, about the year 793.

Whom you behold ill-painted on his throne

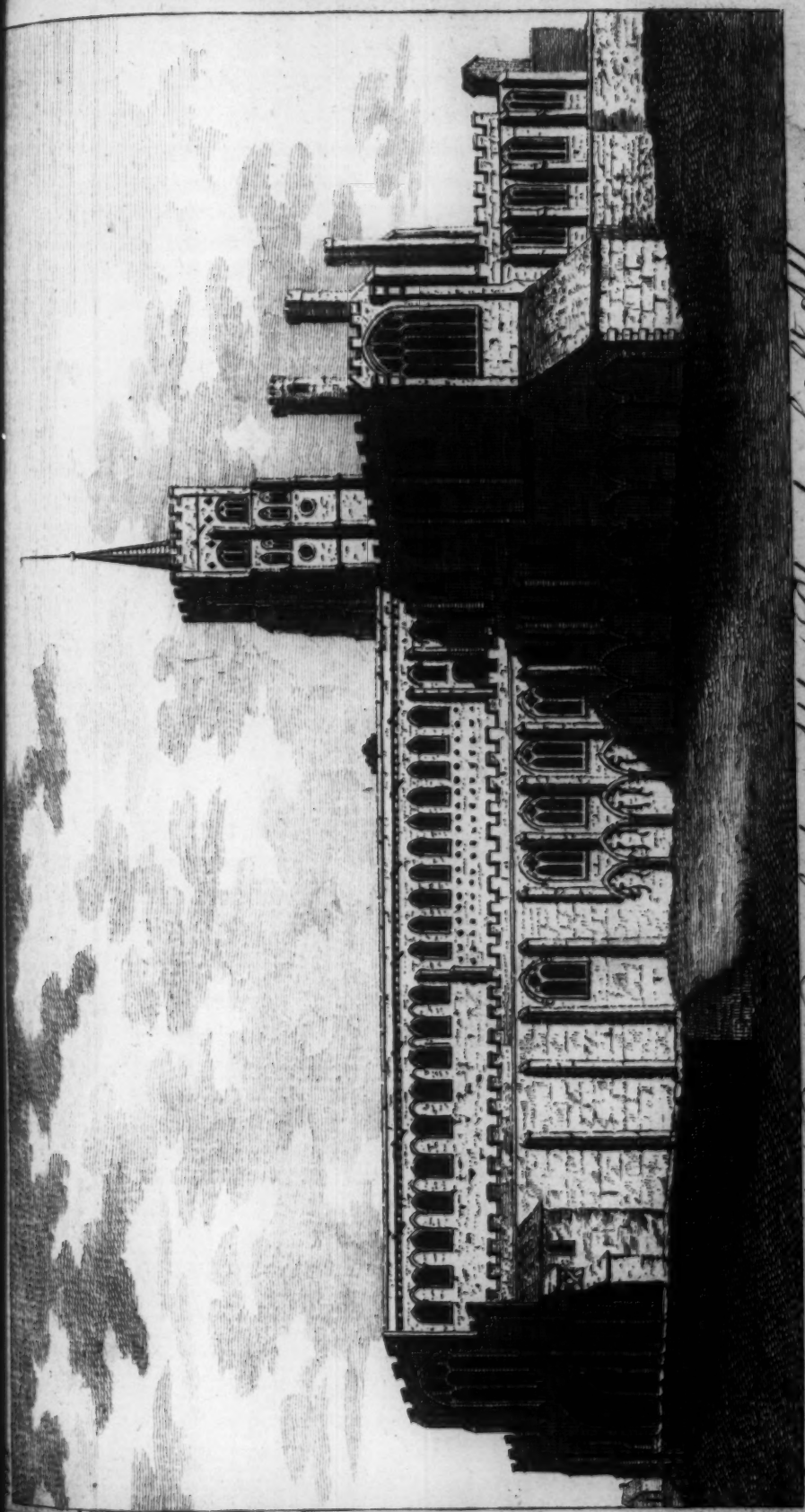
Sublime, was once for MERCIAN OFFA known.

on the east side stood the shrine of St. Alban, where the following short inscription is still to be seen;

S. ALBANUS VEROLAMENSIS, ANGLORUM PROTO-
MARTYR, 17 Junii 293.

In the south isle near the above shrine is the monument of Humphry, brother to King Henry V. commonly distinguished by the title of the Good Duke of Gloucester. It is adorned with a ducal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered. In niches on one side are seventeen Kings; but in the niches on the other side there are no statues remaining. The inscription, which alludes to the pretended miraculous cure of a blind man detected by the Duke, is as follows:

Piz



The South West View of the Abbey Church of St. Albans

L. 1

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 137

Piæ Memoriae V. Opt. Sacrum.

Hic jacet HUMPHREDUS, Dux ille Glocestrius olim,
HENRICI Sexti protector, fraudis ineptæ
Detector, dum ficta notat miracula cœci.
Lumen erat patriæ, columen venerabile regni,
Pacis amans, Musisque favens melioribus; unde
Gratum opus Oxonio, quæ nunc schola sacra refulget.
Invida sed mulier regno, regi, sibi nequam,
Abstulit hunc, humili vix hoc dignata sepulcro.
Invidia rumpente tamen, post funera vivit.

Which has been thus translated:

Sacred to the memory of the best of men.

Interr'd within this consecrated ground,
Lies he, whom HENRY his protector found:
Good HUMPHRY, Gloc'ster's Duke, who well could spy
Fraud couch'd within the blind impostor's eye.
His country's light, the state's rever'd support,
Who peace and rising learning deign'd to court;
Whence his rich library at Oxford plac'd,
Her ample schools with sacred influence grac'd:
Yet fell beneath an envious woman's wile,
Both to herself, her King, and country vile;
Who scarce allowed his bones this spot of land:
Yet spite of envy shall his glory stand.

About fifty years ago in digging a grave, a pair of stairs were discovered that led down into a vault where a leaden coffin was found, in which his body was preserved entire, by a kind of pickle in which it lay, only the flesh was wasted from the legs, the pickle at that end being dried up. Many curious medals and coins are to be seen in the church, that have been dug out of the ruins of Old Verulam that stood on the other side of the river Ver, or Moore, which runs south west of the town.

In the chancel of St. Michael's church in this town, there is a neat monument of white marble, erected to the memory of the famous Lord BACON, by Sir Thomas Meautys, who was his Lordship's secretary. This nobleman, though he had some considerable failings as a man, and as a statesman, possessed one of the most comprehensive understandings, and was one of the greatest philosophers, that have appeared in this, or in any other country. On his monument his Lordship

ship is represented sitting in a chair, in a contemplative and his usual posture, one hand supporting his head, the other hanging over the arm of the chair, and underneath the following inscription :

FRANCISCUS BACON,
Baro de Verulam, Sancti Albani Vicecomes;
Seu notioribus titulis,
Scientiarum Lumen, Facundiæ Lex,
Sic sedebat.

Qui postquam omnia naturalis sapientiæ,
Et civilis arcana evolvisset,
Naturæ Decretum Explevit,
Composita Solvantur;
Anno Domini, M.DC.XXVI.
Ætatis LXVI.

Tanti Viri
Mem.

THOMAS MEAUTYS,
Superstitis Cultor,
Defuncti Admirator,
H. P.

Which may be thus translated:

FRANCIS BACON,
Baron of Verulam, Viscount St. Alban's;
Or by more conspicuous titles,
Of Sciences the Light, of Eloquence the Law,
Sat thus.

Who after all natural wisdom,
And secrets of civil life he had unfolded,
Nature's law fulfilled,
Let Compounds be dissolved,
In the year of our Lord, M.DC.XXVI.
Of his age, LXVI.

To the Memory of so Great a Man,
THOMAS MEAUTYS,
Living his Attendant,
Dead his Admirer,
Hath Placed this monument.

The

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 139

The town of St. Alban's is built in an irregular manner; but the situation is pleasant and healthy, and there are many good inns in the place for the accommodation of travellers, it being on the great north road to Coventry, Birmingham, Chester, Nottingham, Derby, &c. There was besides the abbey, a small nunnery in this town, with several chapels and chantries; but they are all entirely demolished. The late Duchess of Marlborough built a fine house in the neighbourhood of this town, which now belongs to her great grandson, Earl Spencer. She likewise built some good alms-houses, and a charity school for children.

This town is a particular district of itself, and its jurisdiction extends over several towns and parishes, even as far as Barnet. It has sent members to parliament from the earliest times, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four assistants. The weekly market is on Saturday, and here are three fairs annually, viz. on the 25th of March, on the 17th of June, and on the 29th of September.

GORHAMBURY, a little to the west of St. Alban's, was formerly the paternal estate of the great Lord Bacon, concerning whom we have lately spoken, and is now the seat of the Lord Viscount Grimston.

H A T F I E L D

Is a town in Hertfordshire, nineteen miles from London, and was formerly called Bishop's Hatfield, from its belonging to the bishops of Ely. Here was once a royal palace, from whence both Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne. It is a place of great antiquity; for it appears from our historians, that an ecclesiastical synod was held here in the year 681. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, built in the form of a cross; and at the end of the chancel is an antient chapel. On the west end is a tower, and in it a ring of five large bells. There are many curious monuments in this church, and the living is reckoned one of the richest in England.

The town does not contain any remarkable buildings, nor is it very populous; but here are two charity-schools, well endowed. Here is a weekly market on Thursday, and two annual fairs, one on the 23d of April, and another on the eighteenth of October.

The Earl of Salisbury has here a noble seat built by the great Lord Burleigh, called **HATFIELD-HOUSE**. The park and gardens, in which is a vineyard, is watered by the river Lea.

B A R N E T.

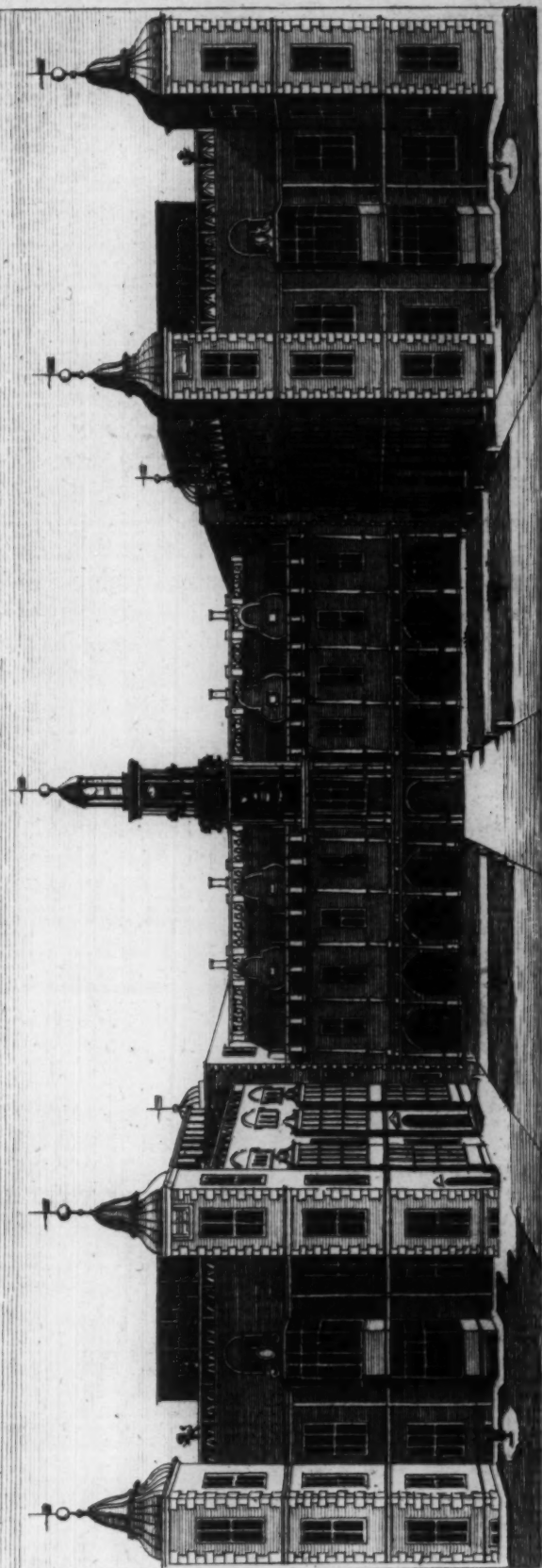
This town, which is eleven miles from London, is sometimes called *High Barnet*, from its situation on a hill; and was also formerly called Chipping, or Cheaping-Barnet, from King Henry the Second's granting the monks of St. Alban's the privilege of holding a market here, the word *Cheap*, or *Chepe*, being an ancient word for a market. It is at present a great thoroughfare, being situated in the road to St. Alban's, and the first stage on the great north road. It has several good inns, with a great number of public houses; and many considerable farmers live in the neighbourhood.

The town is long, and the church, which stands in the middle of it, is a very ancient structure. Here is a free-school founded by Queen Elizabeth, and endowed partly by that princess, and partly by Alderman Owen of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the fishmonger's company. Here is also an alms-house founded and endowed by James Ravenscroft, Esq; for six widows. But what Barnet is most noted for at present is, its races in the month of August, which last three days, and are frequented by vast numbers of all ranks of people from London.

The weekly market at Barnet is on Monday, and it has two annual fairs, each of which holds three days; the first is on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of April; and the second on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of September, for Welch and Scotch cattle.

Barnet is famous for being the place where the decisive battle was fought between the houses of York and Lancaster, on Easter-day, 1471, in which the great Earl of Warwick, stiled the King-maker*, was slain, with many others of the principal nobility. The place supposed to be the field of battle, is a green spot, a little before the meeting of the St. Alban's and Hatfield roads; and here, in the year 1740, an obelisk was erected by Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, on which is the following inscription:

* Vid. P. 95, 96,



Hatfield House the Seat of the Earl of Salisbury.



A View of the Royal Palace at Kensington.

Here was
Fought the
Famous BATTLE
Between EDWARD
the 4th, and the
Earl of WARWICK,
April the 14th,
Anno 1471,
In which the Earl
was defeated,
and slain.

About two miles north-west from Barnet is *Derbams*, which was the seat of the late Earl of Albemarle.

Elstree, *Idlestree*, or *Eaglestree*, (for it has been called by all these names,) a village near Barnet, upon the borders of Middlesex, is thought by Norden to have been the station of *Sulloniaca*, mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary, as at the distance of twelve miles from London: but Mr. Camden and Bishop Gibson think it was at Brockley hill in this neighbourhood, many coins, urns, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there.

Totteridge has been adorned with fine seats belonging to the citizens of London, from the time of King James I. The Saxons gave it the name from its situation on the top of a hill. There was antiently a monastery here.

Edgware, which is a town eleven miles from London, in the road to St. Alban's, is situated on the very edge of the county of Middlesex. The old Roman way, called Watling-Street, passes by here from London.

Harrow on the Hill, is situated in the county of Middlesex, twelve miles north-west of London. It is famous for a free-school founded by Mr. John Lyons, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and every 4th of August a select number of the scholars, dressed in the habit of archers, come with their bows, and shoot at a mark for a silver arrow.

K E N S I N G T O N.

This is a large and populous village in Middlesex; about two miles from Hyde-Park Corner, part of which is in the parish of St. Margaret's, Westminster. The palace, which

was the seat of the Lord Chancellor Finch, afterwards Earl of Nottingham, was purchased by King William, who greatly improved it, and caused a royal road to be made to it, through St. James's and Hyde Parks, with lamp posts erected at equal distances on each side. Queen Mary enlarged the gardens; her sister Queen Anne improved what Mary had begun, and was so pleased with the place, that she frequently supped during the summer in the green-house, which is a very beautiful one: but her late Majesty Queen Caroline completed the design, by extending the gardens from the great road in Kensington to Acton; by bringing what is called the Serpentine river into them, and by taking in some acres out of Hyde Park, on which she caused a mount to be raised, with a chair upon it, that could be easily turned round, so as to afford shelter from the wind. This mount is surrounded with a grove of ever-greens, and commands a fine view over the gardens to the south and west. In short, these gardens, which are three miles and a half in compass, are kept in great order, and in summer-time are resorted to by great numbers of people. The palace indeed has none of that grandeur, which might be expected in the residence of a British Monarch; its nearness to the town makes it very convenient, but it is very irregular in point of architecture. However the royal apartments are grand, and some of the pictures are very fine.

On passing the base court, you enter through a large portico into a stone gallery, that leads to the great stair case, which is a very fine one, and consists of several flights of black marble steps, adorned with iron balusters finely wrought. The painting here affords the view of several balconies with groups of figures representing yeomen of the guard, and spectators, among whom are drawn Mr. Ulrick, commonly called the young Turk, in the Polonese dress in which he waited on his late Majesty King George I. Peter, the wild youth, &c. The stair case is richly decorated and painted by Mr. Kent.

The first room is hung with very fine tapestry, representing the goddess Diana, hunting and killing the wild boar. Over the chimney is a picture in a grand taste, representing one of the graces in the character of painting, receiving instructions from Cupid. This piece is said to be done by Guido Reni. In one corner of the room is a marble statue of Venus, with an apple in her hand; and in another is the statue of Bacchus, whose head is finely executed; but
the

the body, which is inferior to it, seems to be done by another hand.

The second room has its ceiling painted with Minerva, surrounded by the arts and sciences, by Mr. Kent. Over the chimney is a very fine piece representing Cupid admiring Psyche, while she is asleep, by Vandyke. On each side of the room are hung several pictures, as King Henry VIII. and the Comptroller of his household, by Holbein: a three quarter picture of King Charles I. and another of his Queen, by Vandyke: the Duke and Duchess of York, by Sir Peter Lely: as also King William and Queen Mary, when Prince and Princess of Orange, over the doors, by the same hand.

The third room, which was the late Queen's apartment, is adorned with very beautiful tapestry, representing a Dutch winter piece, and the various diversions peculiar to the natives of Holland, done by Mr. Vanderbank. Over the chimney is an admirable picture of King Charles II. King James II. and their sister the Princess of Orange, when children, by Vandyke.

In the fourth room is the picture of a battle or skirmish between the Germans and Italians, by Holbein. Another of Danae descending in a shower of gold, and another of the widow Eliot finely executed by our countryman Riley.

In the fifth room is a picture of the crucifixion, and another of our Saviour laid on the cross, both by Titian: of our Saviour calling St. Matthew from the receipt of customs, by Annibal Caracci; and of his healing the sick in the temple, by Verrio: a picture of Henry IV. of France, by Titian: two heads of Queen Mary I. and Queen Elizabeth, when children, by Holbein: the late Queen Anne, when an infant, by Sir Peter Lely: and several heads by Raphael.

In the sixth room, or rather gallery, are the pictures of King Henry VIII. and Queen Katharine of Arragon, both by Holbein: King Philip of Spain, and Queen Mary, by the same hand: King James I. by Vandyke: King Charles II. the face by Sir Peter Lely: Queen Elizabeth in a Chinese dress, drawn when she was a prisoner at Woodstock: King James II. when Duke of York, and another of his Queen, both by Sir Peter Lely: King William and Queen Mary in their coronation robes, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Sir Godfrey was knighted on his painting these pictures; King William being doubtless pleased with so fine a picture of his Queen. The next is Queen Anne, after Sir Godfrey Kneller;

ler; and a picture of Queen Caroline, which is but poorly executed. In this room is a curious amber cabinet, in a glass case; and at the upper end a beautiful orrery, likewise in a glass case.

The seventh, which is called the Cupola room, has a star in the center, and the ceiling all around is adorned with paintings in mosaic: round the room are placed at proper distances, eight bustos of ancient poets, and six statues of the heathen gods and goddesses at full length, gilt. Over the chimney piece is a curious bas relief in marble, representing a Roman marriage, with a busto of Cleopatra, by Mr. Rysbrack.

In the King's great drawing room, over the chimney, is a very fine picture of St. Francis adoring the infant Jesus, held in the lap of the Virgin Mary, Joseph attending, the whole performed by Sir Peter Paul Rubens. In this room are also the holy family, finely painted by Paul Veronese: three priests, by Tintoret: a noble picture of St. Agnes over one of the doors, by Domenichino: St. John Baptist's head, Mary Magdalen, and a naked Venus, all by Titian: a Venus in a supine posture, stealing an arrow out of Cupid's quiver, with beautiful ornaments in the high gusto of the Greek antique, representing Love and the Drama, by Jacobo da Pontormo; upon the original out-lines of the great Michael Angelo Buonaroti: a picture of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, and his younger brother, when boys, one of the capital pieces of Vandyck: two large pictures by Guido Reni, one of Venus dressing by the Graces; the other of Andromeda chained to a rock: our Saviour in the manger, by Bassan; and a picture of part of the holy family, by Palma the elder.

The ceiling of this room, in which there is such a mixture of sacred and prophane pieces, is painted with the story of Jupiter and Semele.

In the state chamber, the bed is of crimson damask; and over the chimney is a picture of our Saviour and St. John Baptist, by Raphael.

In the state dressing room the hangings are all of needlework; a present from the Queen of Prussia. Here is a picture of Edward VI. by Holbein; of a young nobleman of Venice, by Tintoret: another young nobleman of the same place, by Tintoret; and Titian's lady, painted by himself.

The painted gallery is adorned with many admirable pieces.

At

At the end is King Charles I. on a white horse, with the Duke d'Esperron holding his helmet; the King is an august and noble figure, with some dejection in his countenance; the triumphal arch, curtain, and other parts of the back ground, are finely executed, and so kept, that the King is the principal figure that strikes the eye; and at a little distance it has more of the life than a picture.

Fronting this picture, at the other end of the gallery, is the same King, with his Queen, and two children, King Charles II. when a child, and King James II. an infant in the Queen's lap. The King's paternal tenderness is finely expressed, his son standing at his knee: the Queen's countenance is expressive of respect towards his Majesty, and a fond care of her child, which she seems to desire the King to look on. The infant is exquisitely performed; the vacancy of thought in the face, and the inactivity of the hands, are equal to life itself at that age. These two admirable pieces were done by Vandyke.

One of the next capital pictures in this gallery is Esther fainting before King Ahasuerus, painted by Tintoret. All the figures are finely drawn and richly dressed in the Venetian manner; for the Venetian school painted all their historical figures in their own habits, thinking them more noble and picturesque than any other.

The next piece is the nine muses in concert, finely drawn by the same master.

Midas preferring Pan to Apollo, is a fine piece, by Andrea Schiavone; but it is a good deal hurt by time; the figures however are well drawn and coloured; and the affectation of judgment in Midas is finely expressed.

The shepherds offering gifts to Christ, St. John in prison, the story of the woman of Samaria, and John Baptist's head, are fine pieces, by Old Palma.

Noah's flood, by Bassan, is a masterly performance.

Over the chimney is a madona, by Raphael; which, though a small piece, gives a very high idea of that great master's abilities. There is also in this gallery a madona, by Vandyke, which is exquisitely performed.

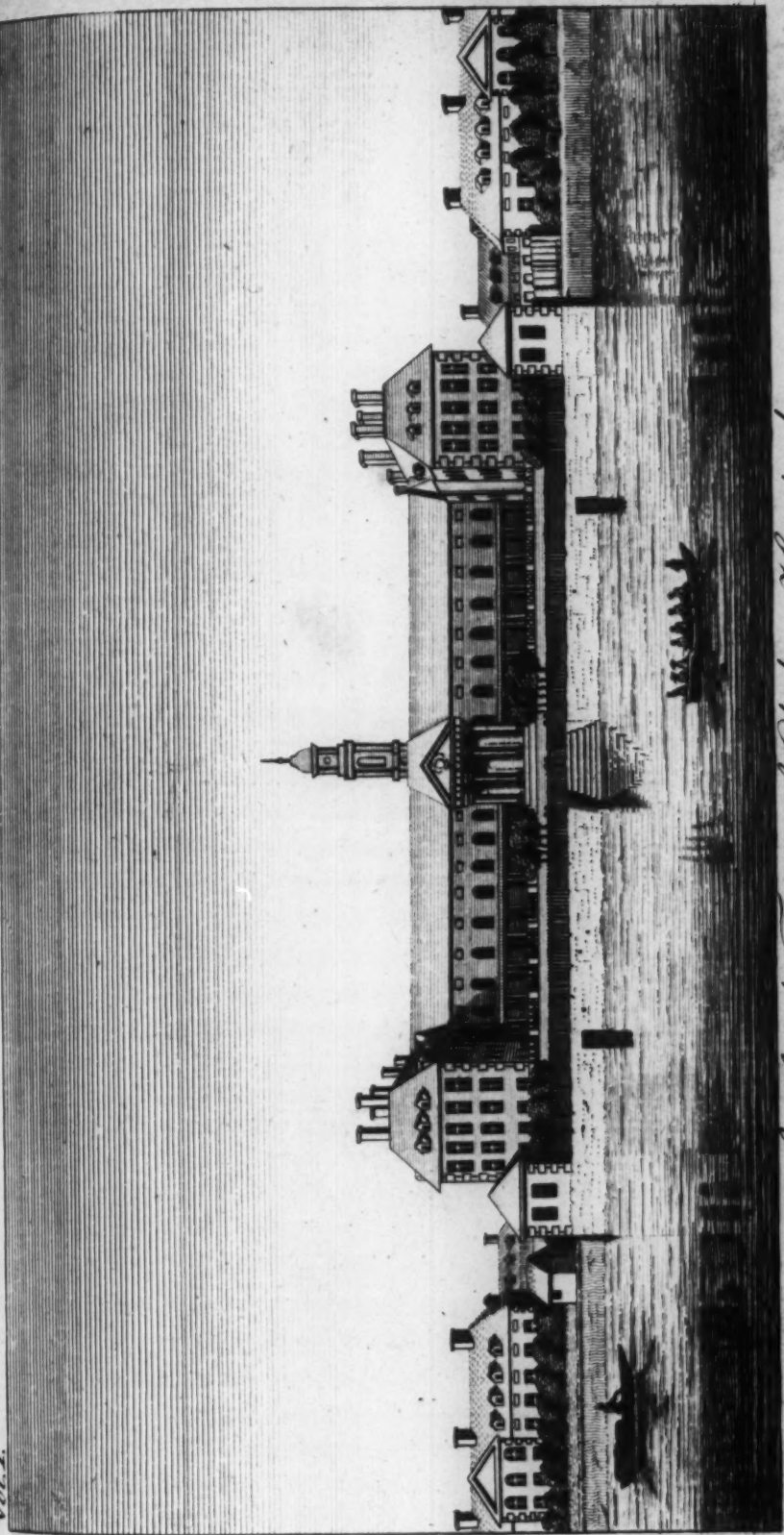
The other pictures here are, the birth of Jupiter, a fine piece, by Julio Romano; a Cupid whetting his arrow, by Annibal Caracci; and a Venus and Cupid, by Titian.

C H E L S E A.

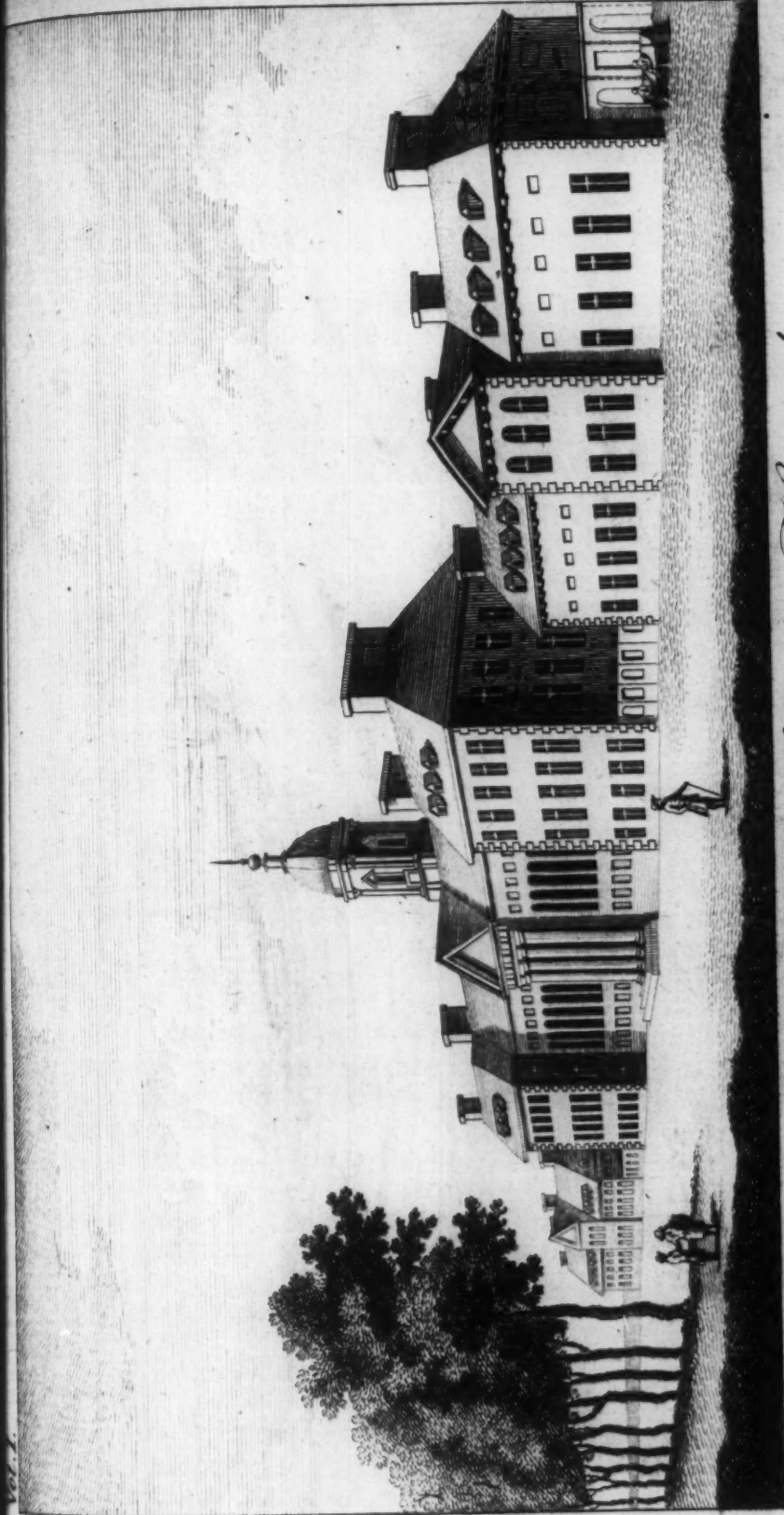
This is a very large and populous village, two miles from London, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames, and opposite to Battersea, to which it is joined by a bridge that has been lately erected. But what is most remarkable here, is CHELSEA HOSPITAL, which is a noble edifice erected for the invalids in the land service. The original building on this spot was a college founded by Dr. Sutcliff, Dean of Exeter, in the reign of King James I. for the study of Polemic divinity, and was endowed in order to support a Provost and Fellows, for the instructing of youth in that branch of learning. The King, who laid the first stone, gave many of the materials, and promoted the work by a large sum of money, and the clergy were very liberal upon the same occasion; but the sum settled upon the foundation by Dr. Sutcliff being far unequal to the end proposed, the rest was left to private contributions; and these coming in slowly, the work was stopped before it was finished, and therefore soon fell to ruin. At length the ground on which the old college was erected, becoming escheated to the crown, Charles II. began to erect the present hospital, which was carried on by James II. and completed by William and Mary.

The whole edifice, which was built by the great Sir Christopher Wren, consists of a vast range of buildings. The front towards the north opens into a piece of ground laid out in walks for the pensioners; and that facing the south, into a garden which extends to the Thames, and is kept in good order. This side affords not only a view of that fine river, but of the county of Surrey beyond it. In the center of this edifice is a pediment supported by four columns, over which is a handsome turret, and through this part is an opening which leads through the building. On one side of this entrance is the chapel, the furniture and plate of which were given by King James I. and on the other side is the hall, where all the pensioners dine in common, the officers by themselves. In this hall is the picture of King Charles II. on horseback, with several other pieces as large as the life, designed by Signio Verrio, and finished by Mr. Cook. These were presented by the Earl of Ranelagh. The pavement of both the chapel and hall are black and white marble. The altar piece in the chapel is the resurrection, painted by Sebastian Ricci.

The wings, which extend east and west, join the chapel
and



The South Front of Chelsea Hospital.



The North Front of Chelsea Hospital.

7.
1107

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 147

and hall to the north, and are open towards the Thames, on the south; these are near 360 feet in length, and about 80 in breadth, they are three stories high, and the rooms are so well disposed, and the air so happily thrown in by means of the open spaces, that hardly any thing can be more pleasant. On the front of this square is a colonade extending along the side of the hall and chapel, over which upon the cornice is the following inscription in capitals:

*In subsidium et levamen emeritorum senio, belloque fracto-
rum, condidit CAROLUS II. Auxit JACOBUS II. Per-
fecere GULIELMUS et MARIA, Rex et Regina, MDCXC,*

And in the midst of the quadrangle is the statue of King Charles II. in the ancient Roman dress, somewhat bigger than the life, standing upon a marble pedestal. This was given by Mr. Tobias Rustat, and is said to have cost 500l.

There are several other buildings adjoining, that form two other large squares, and consist of apartments for the officers and servants of the house, for old maimed officers of horse and foot, and the infirmary for the sick.

An air of neatness and elegance is observable in all these buildings. They are composed of brick and stone, and which way soever they are viewed, there appears such a disposition of the parts as is best suited to the purposes of the charity, the reception of a great number, and the providing them with every thing that can contribute to the convenience and pleasure of the pensioners.

Chelsea Hospital is more particularly remarkable for its great regularity and proper subordination of parts, which is very apparent in the north front. The middle is very principal, and the transition from thence to the extremities, is very easy and delightful.

The expence of erecting these buildings is computed to amount to 150,000l. and the extent of the ground is above forty acres.

In the wings are sixteen wards, in which are accommodations for above 400 men, and there are besides in the other buildings, a considerable number of apartments for officers and servants.

These pensioners consist of superannuated veterans, who have been at least twenty years in the army; or those soldiers who are disabled in the service of the crown. They wear red coats lined with blue, and are provided with all other cloaths, diet, washing, and lodging. The Governor has 500l. a year; the

Lieutenant Governor 250l. and the Major 150l. Thirty-six officers are allowed 6d. a day; thirty-four light horsemen, and thirty serjeants, have 2s. a week each; forty-eight corporals and drums have 10d. per week; and three hundred and thirty-six private men, are each allowed 8d. a week. As the house is called a garrison, all the members are obliged to do duty in their respective turns; and they have prayers twice a day in the chapel, performed by two chaplains, who have each a salary of 100l. a year. The physician, secretary, comptroller, deputy treasurer, steward, and surgeon, have also each 100l. per annum, and many other officers have considerable salaries. As to the out-pensioners, who amount to between eight and nine thousand, they have each 7l. 12s. 6d. a year.

These great expences are supported by a poundage deducted out of the pay of the army, with one day's pay once a year from each officer and common soldier; and when there is any deficiency, it is supplied by a sum raised by parliament. This hospital is governed by the following commissioners; the President of the treasury, the Principal Secretary of state, the Pay-master general of the forces, the Secretary at war, the Comptrollers of the army, and by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the hospital.

The Apothecaries Company have a spacious and beautiful *physic garden* at Chelsea, which contains almost four acres, and is enriched with a vast variety of plants both domestic and exotic. This was given by Sir Hans Sloane, Bart. on condition of their paying a quit-rent of 5l. per annum, and annually delivering to the president and fellows of the royal society, at one of their public meetings, fifty specimens of different sorts of plants, well cured, and of the growth of this garden, till the number of specimens amounts to 2000.

There is also at Chelsea a place of public entertainment remarkable for its elegance, and well known by the name of RANELAGH GARDENS, so called from their formerly belonging to the Earl of Ranelagh. There is no place of public pleasure of the kind equal to this in any other part of Europe; and it is the resort of people of the first quality. Though its gardens are beautiful, it is more to be admired for the amphitheatre. This is a circular building, the external diameter is 185 feet, round the whole is an arcade, and over that

that a gallery with a balustrade (to admit the company into the upper boxes) except where the entrances break the continuity. Over this are the windows, and it terminates with the roof. The internal diameter is 150 feet, and the architecture of the inside corresponds with the outside, except that over every column, between the windows, termini support the roof. In the middle of the area, where the orchestra was at first designed, is a chimney having four faces; in which is a fire, whenever the weather makes it necessary. The orchestra fills up the place of one of the entrances. The entertainment consists of a fine band of music with an organ, accompanied by the best voices: and of late fire-works of the most splendid kind have been exhibited here. The company is regaled with tea and coffee.

P A N C R A S.

This is a small hamlet in Middlesex, on the north-west side of London. It has a church dedicated to St. Pancras, and called St. Pancras in the Fields, an old plain Gothic structure, with a square tower without a spire. It is a vulgar tradition, that this church is of greater antiquity than that of St. Paul's cathedral, of which it is only a prebend; but this arises from a mistake; for the church of St. Pancras, termed the mother of St. Paul's, was situated in the city of Canterbury, and was changed from a Pagan temple to a Christian church by Austin the monk, in the year 598, when he dedicated it to St. Pancras.

Pancras Church-yard is a general burying-place for persons of the Romish religion. There are a great number of tombs in it; and in particular a very elegant one erected to the memory of Lady Henrietta Beard, only daughter of James, Earl of Waldegrave, who was first married to Lord Edward Herbert, son to the Marquis of Powis, and afterwards to Mr. Beard, the celebrated singer, and who was also one of the managers of Covent garden theatre. A very handsome monument has likewise been lately erected to the memory of Miss Dorothea Dias de Faria, who was drowned on the 26th of June, 1772, in the fifth year of her age. And another in memory of a Protestant young Lady, Mary Barsnet, who died in 1756, aged twenty-three years, on whose monument are the following lines:

"Go, spotless honour, and unfully'd truth,

"Go, smiling innocence, and blooming youth;

"Go,

- "Go, female sweetness, join'd with manly sense,
 "Go, winning wit, that never gave offence;
 "Go, soft humanity, that blest the poor,
 "Go, saint-ey'd patience, from affliction's door;
 "Go, modesty, that never wore a frown,
 "Go, virtue, and receive thy heav'nly crown!
 "Not from a stranger came this heart-felt verse,
 "The friend inscrib'd thy tomb, whose tears bedew'd
 "thy hearse."

K E N T I S H T O W N.

This has arisen from a small village, to be a place of considerable repute; for the air being extremely healthy, many of the citizens of London have built houses in it; and many others who cannot afford that expence, take ready furnished lodgings for the summer, particularly those who are afflicted with consumptions, and other disorders. There is no parish church in the town, but they have a good chapel of ease at a little distance, belonging to Pancras Parish. In the town are some genteel boarding-schools, and many public houses, it being much resorted to by the people of London.

I S L I N G T O N.

This is a considerable village in Middlesex, on the north side of London: it has been so much enlarged within these few years by the addition of new buildings, that it almost joins to the capital. It is a place of great antiquity, and appears to have been built by the Saxons, and in the time of William the Conqueror was called Isendon or Isledon. By the south west side of this village, is a fine reservoir called New River Head, which consists of a large basin, into which the New River discharges itself; part of the water is from thence conveyed by pipes to London, while another part is thrown by an engine through other pipes up hill to a reservoir, which lies much higher, in order to supply the highest parts of London.

The church is one of the prebends of St. Paul's; the old Gothic structure lately taken down was erected in the year 1503, and stood till 1751, when it being in a ruinous condition, the inhabitants applied to parliament for leave to rebuild it, and soon after erected the present structure, which is a very substantial brick edifice, though it does not want an air of lightness. The body is well enlightened, and the angles strengthened and decorated with a plain rustic. The floor

is raised considerably above the level of the church yard, and the door in the front is adorned with a portico, which consists of a dome supported by four Doric columns; but both the door and the portico appear too small for the rest of the building. The steeple consists of a tower, which rises square to a considerable height, terminated by a cornice supporting four vases, at the corners. Upon this part is placed an octangular balustrade, from within which rises the base of the dome in the same form, supporting Corinthian columns with their shafts wrought with rustic. Upon these rests the dome, and from its crown rises the spire, which is terminated by a ball and its fane. Though the body of the church is very large, the roof is supported without pillars, and the inside is extremely commodious, and adorned with an elegant plainness.

This parish is very extensive, and includes Upper and Lower Holloway, three sides of Newington Green, and part of Kingsland. There are in Islington two meeting houses, and a charity-school founded in the year 1613, by Dame Alice Owen, for educating thirty children: this foundation, together with that of a row of almshouses, are under the care of the Brewers company.

Islington contains a vast number of inhabitants, many handsome rows of very neat houses having been lately built in it. And the number of public houses in it is very considerable; and there are several noted places of entertainment in the neighbourhood; particularly the White Conduit House; the Shakespeare and Jubilee Gardens, formerly known by the name of Dobney's; New Tunbridge Gardens; and Sadler's Wells, where during the summer season people are amused with balance-masters, walking on the wire, rope-dancing, tumbling, dancing, singing, and pantomime entertainments. Indeed, houses of dissipation of every kind, have of late years been greatly increased in the neighbourhood of London; to a degree that would not have been suffered, if the morals of the people were an object of any consideration to those who are invested with the powers of government.

Near the New River, on the north of Islington, is an antient edifice, called *Cannonbury-house*; and near it several handsome houses have been built within these few years. The old house is partly let out in lodgings, and partly used as a genteel public house. At a little distance from it is a farm and a public house, called *Highbury Barn*, near which are the remains of an antient fortification, in a place known by the name

name of Reedmoat, or six acre field. Most of our antiquarians have supposed that this was the place, where Paulinus, the Roman general, fled with his men, when the Britons, under the command of Queen Boadicea, murdered all the inhabitants of London, and set fire to that city.

As the reservoir of the *New River* beforementioned, is near Islington, and as this is a work of great public utility, it may not be improper here to give a more particular account of it.—Various were the projects in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James I. for supplying the city of London with a sufficient quantity of water, for domestic uses: the former granted an act of parliament, which gave the citizens liberty to cut and convey a river from any part of Middlesex or Hertfordshire to the city of London, within the limited time of ten years; and the latter granted another act, in which they obtained the same power, but without being confined to any limited time: nobody however began this great and important work, till at last Sir Hugh Middleton undertook to bring a river from Amwell in Hertfordshire to the north side of London near Islington.

The work began on the 20th of September 1608, and was attended with innumerable difficulties. The distance from London is twenty miles; and he was obliged, in order to avoid the eminences and vallies in the way, to make it run a course of thirty-eight miles three quarters and sixteen poles, and to carry it over two vallies in long wooden frames or troughs lined with lead; that at Buthill, being six hundred and sixty feet in length, and thirty in height; under which, or the passage of the land waters is an arch capacious enough to admit under it the largest waggon laden with hay or straw: the other near Highbury is four hundred and sixty-two feet long, and seventeen in height, where it is raised along the top of high artificial banks, and at the bottom of the hollow supported by poles, so that any person may walk under it. In short, over and under this river, which sometimes rises high, and at others is conveyed under ground, runs several considerable currents of land waters, and both above and below it a great number of brooks, rills, and water courses have their passage.

This river, which is of inestimable benefit to London, was by this truly great man brought to the city within the space of five years, and was admitted into the reservoir near Islington on Michaelmas day 1613; on which day Sir Thomas
Mid-

Middleton, brother to the great Sir Hugh, was elected Lord Mayor for the ensuing year, who accompanying Sir John Swinerton, then Lord Mayor, attended by many of the Aldermen, the Recorder, and other gentlemen, repaired to the basin, now called New River Head, when about sixty labourers, handsomely dressed, and wearing green caps, carrying spades, shovels, and pickaxes, marched, preceded by drums and trumpets, thrice round the basin, when stopping before the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and other gentlemen, who were seated upon an eminence, one of the labourers addressed himself to them in a long copy of verses, which being ended, the sluices were opened, and the stream ran plentifully into the reservoir, under the sound of drums and trumpets, the discharge of several pieces of ordnance, and the loud acclamations of the people.

Sir Hugh Middleton, to enable himself to complete this grand work, had at last, after spending his own fortune, been obliged to apply to King James I. who advancing a sum of money became entitled to a moiety of the profits; he was also obliged to sell many other shares, and in short, was in a manner entirely ruined by a project, that has been attended with unspeakable benefit to this city: since by the water of this river, a speedy stop has been put to a great number of dreadful fires, and the health of the city has been remarkably preserved by the cleanliness it has introduced among us. Yet so little were the advantages that might then, and are now derived from this river, at that time understood, that for above thirty years, there were not divided above 51. odd money, to each of the shares, which are seventy-two in number.

This river now draws most of its water from the Lee, which being the property of the city of London, that corporation, contrary to the interest of the city in general, opposed a bill brought into parliament for giving farther powers to the New River company, to take the advantage that might be obtained by the river Lee: but the opposition was without effect, and in 1738-9 the bill passed into a law.

The Governors of the New River company then agreed with the proprietors of the lands on the river Lee for a cut of two cubic feet of water from that river, at a certain rate; and after the agreement, told them they would double the price for a four foot cut, which the proprietors agreed to, not considering the great disproportion between the two cuts; and

this cut of the river Lee now supplies the largest share of the New River water.

In this river there are forty three sluices, and over it two hundred and fifteen bridges. On its approaching the reservoir, called New River Head, there are several small houses erected at a considerable distance from each other on its banks, into which the water runs, and is conveyed by pipes to the nearer parts of the metropolis. On its entering the above reservoir, it is there ingulphed by fifty eight main pipes, each of seven inches bore; and here also an engine worked by horses, throws a great quantity of water up to another reservoir, situated on much higher ground, from which the water runs in pipes to supply the highest ground in the city, and its liberties. Many years ago 30,000 houses were thus supplied by this water, and since that time several main pipes have been laid to carry it into the liberties of Westminster.

H O X T O N.

This is a very antient place, and in the Conqueror's survey is named *Hocheston*. It was formerly a town, and had a weekly market; but that has been long since discontinued. It has been so much encreased in buildings, that it joins to the metropolis. The most remarkable edifice here is ASKE'S HOSPITAL, a handsome building erected by the Haberdasher's company in the year 1692, pursuant to the will of Robert Aske, Esq; who left 30,000*l.* for building and endowing it, in order to afford lodging and board for twenty poor men of that company, and for as many boys to be instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Each of the pensioners hath an apartment consisting of three neat rooms, with proper diet at a common table, and firing; the annual sum of 3*l.* and a gown every second year: which, together with the salaries of the chaplain, clerk, butler, porter, and other domestics, amount to about 800*l.* per annum.

A plan of the building was drawn by Dr. Hooke, a learned mathematician of Gresham College, and upon his model it was erected in an advantageous situation, fronting the east, with grass plats before it, adorned with rows of lime trees, and inclosed with a handsome wall and iron gates. On the piers of the great gates at the south end, are two stone statues, representing two of Aske's Hospital men, in full proportion. The principal part of the building is only one story high with garrets; where a portico with twenty-one stone pillars

lars extends on a line on each side of the chapel, which is placed in the middle, and on each side above these pillars is a range of twenty-two very small windows. The pillars of the chapel extend to the top of the first story, and that edifice rising considerably above the rest of the building, is terminated by a handsome pediment; with a clock, under which is the effigies of the founder in stone, cloathed in his gown, and holding in his hand a roll of parchment, which seems to be his last will. Under him is the following inscription:

ROBERTO ASKE *Armigero, hujus Hospitii Fundatori, Socie. Haberd. B. M. P. C.*

And on one side of him is this inscription:

Anno Christi MDCLXXXII. Societas Haberdasheorum de London hec Hospitium condiderunt, ex Legato & Testamento ROBERTI ASKE Armigeri, ejusdem Societatis; ad viginti Senum Alimenta, & totidem Puerorum Educationem.

On the other side this inscription:

The worshipful Company of Haberdashers built this Hospital, pursuant to the gift and trust of R. ASKE, Esq; a late worthy Member of it, for the relief of twenty poor Members, and for the Education of twenty Boys, sons of decayed Freemen of that company.

Fronting the entrance of the chapel is a large pair of very handsome iron gates, and at each end of the hospital is an edifice of the same height as the chapel.—There are sundry other alms-houses at Hoxton, which have been erected for different charitable purposes; and, among others, the alms-houses erected and endowed by Mrs. Mary Westby, of Bocking in Essex, widow, in 1749, for fourteen poor women. These are commonly called *the Old Maid's Alms-houses*; though either maids or widows may be admitted; but they must be Dissenters.

Kingland is a hamlet of the parish of Islington, lying betwixt Hoxton and Newington; and between Kingland and Shoreditch church are what are called the Ironmongers Alms-houses, which are very handsome, and have pleasant walks. They were founded by Sir Robert Geffryes, formerly Lord Mayor of London, who was a member of the Ironmongers

Company; and are appropriated for the reception and support of fifty-six decayed members of that Company. Each of them has a room, with part of a cellar, six pounds a year in money, and a gown. None are admitted under sixty years of age; but a wife may reside with her husband, and when he dies be elected in his room. They have a handsome chapel, where a clergyman reads prayers every day, and preaches on Sundays, for which he has a proper salary, with commodious apartments to reside in.

S T O K E N E W I N G T O N .

This is a village three miles from London, which is very large and populous, great numbers of citizens having built houses in it, on account of its vicinity to the capital. The church is a small, low, Gothic structure, and belongs to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's; and there is also a dissenting meeting here. Behind the church is a pleasant grove, shaded with tall trees, and seats for the accommodation of such as frequent it, for the benefit of the air.

Newington Green, which is a village near Newington, and partly in the same parish, is a very agreeable place. The principal part consists of a very handsome square, in the middle of which is an extensive and beautiful grass-plat, with gravel-walks, leading from each of the angles; and on the east-side is an handsome meeting for Protestant Dissenters.

E D M O N T O N

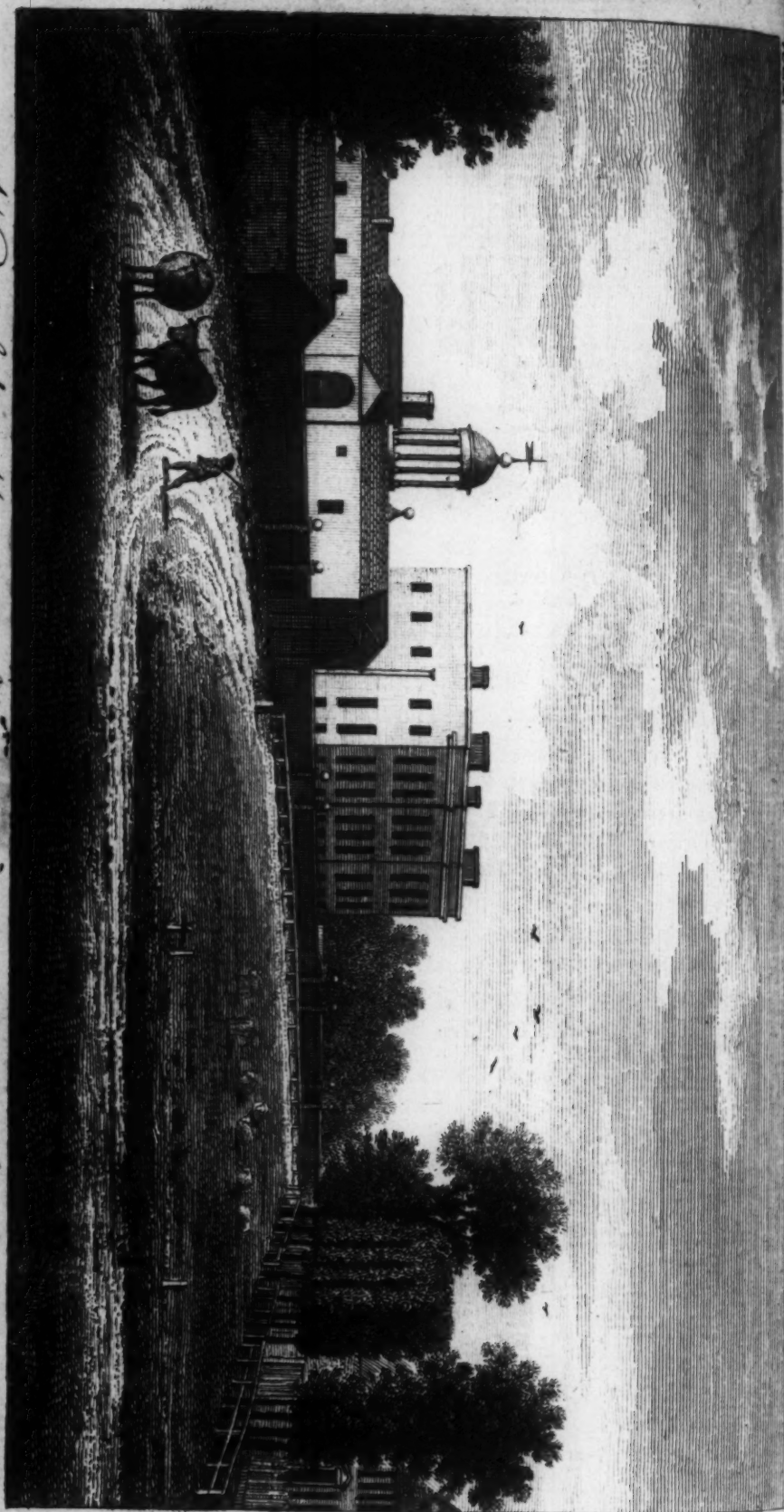
Is eight miles from London, and although only a small village in former times, yet by the great increase of buildings is now become considerable: but the houses are scattered up and down along the road, without any regular order, and few of them join together, being mostly separated by gardens and enclosures. There is an assembly room here.

E N F I E L D

Is a town in Middlesex, about ten miles from London, which is supposed to have been anciently called *Ensen*, from its situation among fens, and in marshy ground. There was formerly a royal seat in it, supposed to have been built in the reign of King Henry VII. and in the last century it was noted for being the residence of a great number of tanners, but at present little of that trade is carried on here.

The

View of the Marquis of Caernarvon's Seat at Southgate.



The town is pleasantly situated, and the church, which is a low Gothic structure, stands about the middle of it. There is also a meeting-house here, and several rich citizens of London have their country-seats near the town.—There is a weekly market here on Saturday, and a fair held on the 25th of May, and another on the 29th of September.

Lord Lyttelton has informed us, on the authority of an ancient author, who lived in the reign of Henry II. that the citizens of London had a chase or forest, extending from that part of the city, called Houndsditch, above twelve miles north, and that it was the joint property of the whole corporation. In this forest the citizens enjoyed the diversion of hunting, and such other exercises as were common in those warlike times. As commerce and a love of industry increased, these diversions were in a great measure neglected, the forest was gradually laid open, and at last became the property of private persons. *Enfield chase*, which is the only part now remaining of this extensive forest, has been for many years the property of the crown, and is at present annexed to the duchy of Lancaster.

In the reign of King James I. when that prince resided at Theobalds, Enfield chase was well stocked with deer, the King being extremely fond of hunting; but the parliament army, during the civil war, destroyed all the game, cut down the trees, and let the ground out in small farms. It continued in that condition till the restoration, when young trees were planted, and the whole stocked with game; but it is far inferior to what it was formerly. The ranger, who is appointed by the crown, has a most elegant seat, called the Lodge, and there are many seats belonging to persons of quality, all along the borders of the chase, particularly at Southgate, where the marquis of Caernarvon, son to the Duke of Chandos, has a most noble country house, in which his lordship generally resides, during the summer.

C H E S H U N T

Is a very agreeable village, in Hertfordshire, fourteen miles from London, and many of the citizens have their country seats here. The Ermine-street, or Roman military way, passes near it, and in a field to the north-west are the remains of a strong camp. It is raised in an oblong form with deep ditches, but most of them are now filled up. There was formerly a Benedictine nunnery here, dedicated to the virgin Mary; and Edward III. gave this village the privilege

lege of keeping a weekly market, but it is now discontinued.

T H E O B A L D S

Is a most pleasant village, near Cheshunt, wherein are many fine seats belonging to the citizens of London. The palace of Theobalds, in which King James I. much delighted, now belongs to the Duke of Portland, who lets it out in tenements. This palace, which was very magnificent, was originally built by the great Lord Burleigh; and Hentzner, who has given a description of it in his *Itinerarium*, says, that the gallery was painted with the genealogy of the Kings of England, and from thence was a descent into the garden, which was encompassed with a ditch filled with water, and large enough to have the pleasure of rowing in a boat between the shrubs; it was adorned with a great variety of trees and plants, labyrinths made with much labour, a jet d'eau with its bason of white marble, and with columns and pyramids. In the summer house, the lower part of which was built semicircularly, were the twelve Roman Emperors in white marble, and a table of touchstone; the upper part of it was set round with leaden cisterns, into which water was conveyed through pipes. This seat the Lord Burleigh gave to his younger son Sir Robert Cecil, in whose time King James I. staying there for one night's refreshment, as he was coming to take possession of the crown of England, he was so delighted with the place that he gave him the manor of Hatfield Regis in exchange for it, and afterwards enlarged the park, and encompassed it with a wall ten miles round. The palace he often visited, in order to enjoy the pleasure of hunting in Enfield Chase and Epping Forest, and at last died there. In the civil wars it was however plundered and defaced, it being the place from whence King Charles I. set out to erect his standard at Nottingham: King Charles II. granted the manor to George Monk, Duke of Albemarle; but it reverting again to the crown, for want of heirs male, King William III. gave it to William Bentinck, whom he created Earl of Portland, from whom it descended to the Duke his grandson: the great park, a part of which was in Hertfordshire, and a part in Middlesex, is now converted into farms.—In this neighbourhood Richard Cromwell, who had been protector, but abdicated, passed the last part of his life in a very private manner.

H O D D E S D O N

Is a considerable town, seventeen miles from London, in the county of Hertford. It is a considerable thoroughfare, and a place of great antiquity. It is a considerable market for all sorts of corn. Queen Elizabeth, by charter, granted a grammar-school to this town, and endowed it with certain privileges; and an alms-house was founded here in the reign of King Henry VI. by Richard Rich, sheriff of London, and ancestor to the late Earls of Warwick. Here are the ruins of an antient chapel; but by whom it was built does not appear, only that it belonged to an hospital for leprous persons, which is now totally demolished. The weekly market is held on Thursday, and here is a fair for toys on the 29th of July.

W A R E

Is a town in Hertfordshire, twenty-one miles from London, and situated in a valley on the east-side of the river Lea.—It is said, that some strolling parties of the Danes sailed up this river from the Thames, in their small open boats, and infested this part of the country. They likewise built a fort here, to secure themselves from the army of Alfred, and for its better defence, raised the water so high, by a great dam, or as they called it, a Weare, that it was with great difficulty the English could dislodge them. And from this circumstance we are told the town received its name. This place is a considerable thoroughfare, being one of the best post-towns on the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914, and began to be of some note in the reign of King John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was by the procurement of Sayer de Quincy, then lord of the manor, turned through this town.—It consists of one street, about a mile in length, with several back streets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a cross, and has a handsome gallery, erected by the governors of Christ's Hospital in London, who send several of the children of that hospital hither, either for health or education. Besides a charity-school, here are seven alms-houses, well endowed. At the Bull inn in this town, there is a famous bed, much visited by travellers from London and other places: it is said to be twelve feet square, and capable

capable of containing twenty couple. This town is a great market for corn and malt: 5000 quarters of malt are often sent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return with coals. — The market is on Tuesday, and here are two fairs held, one on the last Tuesday in April, and another on the Tuesday before St. Matthew's day.

Near Ware is a spot of ground called Lemon-field, where three Roman wine vessels were dug up in 1729. These vessels were of a pale reddish earth, and of the form of the Roman amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, for the purpose of fixing them in the ground. They were eighteen inches below the surface, and full of earth and chalk-stones of the neighbouring soil. Many human bodies have been dug up hereabouts, but though the ground around them is black, they appeared not to have been burnt, and seemed by their shallow burial to have been the relics of a battle.—On the south of Ware is *Amwell*, where the New River, of which we have already spoken, takes its rise.

H E R T F O R D

Is at the distance of twenty-one miles from London, and was a place of some note in the time of the antient Britons. The East Saxon Kings often kept their courts here, and upon the first division of the kingdom into counties, it was made the county town. It sent members to parliament in the reign of King Edward the First, but after the seventh of Henry the Fifth, on the petition of the bailiff and burgesses to be excused, on account of their poverty, that privilege was discontinued till the twenty-second of James the First.

In the time of Henry the Seventh, the standard of weights and measures was fixed here, and Queen Mary made this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs and burgesses; and by her charter, the number of burgesses was to have been sixteen. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of Queen Elizabeth, Michaelmas term was kept here, by reason of the plague at both times in London; and that Queen granted this town a new charter. King James the First afterwards granted it another charter, with the stile of mayor, burgesses, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgesses, and sixteen assistants, and the mayor to be chosen out of the burgesses, by both the burgesses and assistants; but now this town is governed by a mayor, a high steward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town clerk, chamberlain,

berlain, ten capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants, together with two ſerjeants at mace.

The town of Hertford ſtands pleaſantly in a ſweet air, and dry vale: it is built after the figure of a Roman Y, and has a caſtle, placed between the two horns, in which is the ſeſſions-houſe for the county. It has alſo a county goal, and formerly had five churches, which now are reduced to two, All Saints and St. Andrews. All Saints is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the town, and has a tall ſpire, covered with lead, and eight good bells, beſides an organ, and an handſome gallery for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governors of Chriſt-church hoſpital in London, who have erected a good houſe in this town to receive ſick and ſupernumerary children; they have alſo built a large gallery in the church, in which 200 of their children may be accommodated. St. Andrew's is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the ſtreets. Here are three charity ſchools, and alſo a free-grammar ſchool, founded by Richard Hale, Eſq; in the reign of King James the Firſt.

The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is ſaid to ſend no leſs than 5000 quarters of malt to London weekly, by the river Lea. It is however obſerved, that the magnificence of this town is much diminished, ſince the north road from London, which went through it, was turned through the town of Ware.

The caſtle of Hertford was built by King Alfred, to defend the town and neighbourhood againſt the Danes, who came up in their light pinnaces from the Thames by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and erected a fort there, whence they made frequent ſallies to plunder and deſtroy the country.

The members of parliament for Hertford are choſen by the freemen in general, the mayor being the returning officer. The weekly market is on Saturday, and there are four annual fairs held here, namely, on the Saturday fortnight before Eaſter, the 12th of May, the 5th of July, and the 8th of November.

H A C K N E Y:

This is a very large, populous, and pleaſant village, in Middleſex, on the north-eaſt ſide of London. It is ſo remarkable for the country ſeats of merchants and rich citizens, that it is ſaid there are not leſs than an hundred gentlemen's coaches kept in it. The pariſh has ſeveral hamlets belonging

to it, among which are Clapton on the north, Dorleston and Shacklewell on the west, and Hummerton, which leads to Hackney-marsh, on the east.

Hackney church is an antient Gothic structure; it was a distinct rectory and vicarage in the year 1292, and dedicated to St. Augustine; but the Knights Templars having obtained a mill and other possessions in the parish, they were, upon the suppression of their order, granted to the Knights Templars of St. John of Jerusalem, from which the church is supposed to have received the present appellation of St. John: however, it was not presented to by that name till after the year 1660. The living is now only a vicarage, the great tithes being in lay hands.—There are two dissenting meeting-houses here.—At the bottom of Hackney Marsh was discovered, some years ago, the remains of a great stone causeway, which by the Roman coins found there, appears to have been one of the famous highways made by the Romans.

It is from this place, that the coaches let to the people in London first received their name; for in the last century, many persons of condition residing at Hackney, and many people having gone on visits to see their friends there, it occasioned them often to hire horses, or carriages; so that in time it became a common name for such horses, coaches, and chairs, as were let out to the people of London; and the name has now diffused itself, not only throughout Great Britain, but likewise Ireland.

B E T H N A L - G R E E N.

This is a pleasant village near London, chiefly inhabited by merchants and citizens of London, and has been long noted for private mad-houses. The church is one of the fifty appointed to be built by act of parliament, and stands on the north of Spital-fields. It is a neat, commodious edifice, built with brick, coped and coined with free-stone; and the tower, which is not high, is of the same materials. This village was one of the hamlets of Stepney, from which parish it was separated in the late King's reign.—The old Roman way from London led through this hamlet, and joining the military way from the West, passed with it to Lea Ferry at Old Ford.—Within this hamlet, Bonner, Bishop of London, had formerly a palace.

M I L E.

M I L E - E N D

Was so called on account of its being a mile from Aldgate: such was its situation in former times; but at present, what is called Mile-end, extends above a mile in length, its farthest extremity being bounded by Bañcroft's Alms-houses. There were in ancient times several small hospitals here, particularly one for lepers; but no remains of it are left. At present there are many good houses at Mile-end, and more alms-houses than are probably any where else to be met with, within the same compass of ground.

The first that deserves our notice is that called TRINITY HOSPITAL, which was founded by the corporation of the Trinity House. It is a very noble, and yet not a very expensive edifice; but is rendered beautiful by its situation, and the agreeable manner in which it is laid out. It consists of two wings and a center, wherein is the chapel, which rises considerably higher than the other buildings, and has an ascent to it by a handsome flight of steps secured by iron rails; this chapel has large windows, and is adorned with a pediment; behind it rises a turret, ornamented with a clock, and crowned with a fane. On each side of the chapel, are two sets of apartments exactly resembling the wings.

The wings are low but neat buildings, with an ascent of seven steps to each pair of doors, secured by brick walls capped with stone, and there are six of these ascents to each wing, besides two in the front, and one on each side the chapel. Between each of these ascents is a pump fixed close to the wall.

It is remarkable that all these ascents lead to the upper story; there are however rooms below, but these are under ground, and the windows upon a level with a broad stone pavement, that surrounds the area next the houses. In the centre of each wing is a handsome pediment, adorned with the company's arms, with the representation of ropes, anchors, and sea weeds, in open work, spread over the face of the pediments, and the area within consists of handsome grass-plats, divided by gravel-walks, kept in excellent order, leading down the middle, and across to the centre of the area, where is a statue in stone of Mr. Robert Sandes well executed. He has a bale of goods placed behind; he stands with his right-foot upon another bale, and near his left-foot is a small globe, and anchor. On the pedestal is the following inscription:

X 2

To

To the memory of CAPTAIN ROBERT SANDES, an elder brother, and deputy-master of the corporation of Trinity House, who died in 1701, and bequeathed to the poor thereof one hundred pounds; also the reversion (after two lives) of a freehold estate in the county of Lincoln of 147l. a year, now in their possession. This statue was erected by the corporation A. D. 1746.

The end of each wing next the road has an empty niche, and over it is a very small pediment, on each side of which is placed a small ship.

The ground on which this hospital stands was given to the corporation of the Trinity-house by Capt. Henry Mudd, an elder brother, and the above beautiful and commodious building was erected by the company in the year 1695, for the reception of twenty-eight masters of ships, or their widows, each of whom receives 16s. per month, 20s. a year for coals, and a gown every second year.

Adjoining to the Trinity-almshouses are eight others, belonging to the Draper's company, for the widows of four freemen, and the widows of four sailors, who have each an allowance of one shilling and eight-pence per week, with half a chaldron of coals at Michaelmas, and a gown every two years.

There are also near the same place twelve alms-houses, belonging to the Skinner's company, for twelve widows, who have each an allowance of five pounds four shillings a year, with half a chaldron of coals.

Fuller's Alms-houses, founded by a judge of that name, in 1592, for twelve poor men are in the same neighbourhood. And there are also a few alms-houses, for the widows of ship-masters, founded by Captain Fisher, who settled upon it a freehold of forty pounds a year.

But the most splendid foundation of the kind here, is BANCROFT's beautiful alms houses, school, and chapel; which were erected by the Draper's company in the year 1735, pursuant to the will of Mr. Francis Bancroft, who bequeathed to that company the sum of 28,000l. and upwards, in real and personal estates, for purchasing a site, and building upon it an alms-house, with convenient apartments for twenty-four alms-men, a chapel, and school room for 100 poor boys, and two dwelling-houses for the schoolmasters, and endowing the same. He also ordered that each of the alms-men should have 8l. and half a chaldron of coals yearly, and a gown

gown of baize every third year; that the school boys should be cloathed and taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; that each of the masters, besides their houses, should have a salary of 30*l.* per annum, and the yearly sum of 20*l.* for coals and candles, for their use, and that of the school; with a sufficient allowance for books, paper, pens and ink; that the committee of the court of assitants should have 5*l.* for a dinner, at their annual visitation of the alms-houses and school; and that 3*l.* 10*s.* should be given for two half yearly sermons to be preached in the parish churches of St. Helen and St. Michael, Cornhill, or elsewhere, in commemoration of this foundation, at which the alms-men and boys were to be present. To each of these boys, when put out apprentices, he gave 4*l.* but if they were put to service they were to have no more than 2*l.* 10*s.* to buy them cloaths.

The edifice is not only neat but extremely elegant, consisting of two wings and a center detached from both of them. In the middle of the front is the chapel, before which is a noble portico, with Ionic columns, and coupled pilasters at the corners, supporting a pediment, in the plane of which is the dial. There is an ascent to the portico by a flight of steps, and over the chapel is a handsome turret. On each side of the portico, are two houses like those in the wings. The construction of the wings is uniform, lofty and convenient: twelve doors in each open in a regular series, and the windows are of a moderate size, numerous, and proportioned to the apartments they are to enlighten. The square is surrounded with gravel walks, with a large grass plat in the middle, and next the road the wall is adorned with handsome iron rails and gates. In short, the ends of the wings next the road being placed at a considerable distance from it, the whole is seen in a proper point of view, and appears to the greatest advantage.

It is worthy of remark, that this Bancroft, who left so large a sum for erecting and endowing this fine hospital, and even ordered two sermons to be annually preached in commemoration of his charity, was, according to the last edition of Stow's Survey, one of the Lord Mayor's officers, and by informations and summoning the citizens before the Lord Mayor, upon the most trifling occasions, and other things not belonging to his office, not only pillaged the poor, but also many of the rich, who rather than lose time in appearing before that Magistrate, gave money to get rid of this
common

common pest of the citizens, which, together with his numerous quarterages from the brokers, &c. enabled him to amass annually a considerable sum of money. But by these and other mercenary practices, he so incurred the hatred and ill-will of the citizens of all ranks and denominations, that the persons who attended his funeral obsequies, with great difficulty saved his corpse from being jostled off the bearers shoulders in the church, by the enraged populace, who seized the bells, and rang them for joy at his unlamented death.

It is farther remarkable of this Mr. Bancroft, that he entertained a notion that he should rise from the dead, after a certain number of years, and ordered his body to be preserved within a show-glass, in the church of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, where it still lies, and the door is, by his directions in his last will, set open, during the time that the annual sermon is preached in that church in memory of himself. But notwithstanding these precautions, and the many opportunities that have been given him of changing his quarters, Mr. Bancroft still continues very peaceably in the place wherein he was originally deposited.

S T E P N E Y

Is a village near Mile-end, of great antiquity. This parish was of such a vast extent, and so amazingly encreased in buildings, as to produce the parishes of St. Mary Stratford at Bow, St. Mary Whitechapel, St. Ann's Limehouse, St. John's at Wapping, St. Paul's Shadwell, St. George Ratcliff Highway, Christ Church Spitalfields, and St. Matthew's Bethnal Green; all which have been separated from it, and yet it still remains one of the largest parishes within the bills of mortality, and contains the hamlets of Mile-end, Old and New Towns, Ratcliff and Poplar.

The village of Stepney is remarkable for its church, and the great number of tomb-stones, both in that edifice and its spacious cemetery. It has also an independant meeting-house, and an alms-house. The village, however, is but small, and consists of few houses besides those of public entertainment; many people of both sexes resorting thither on Sundays, and at Easter and Whitsun-holidays, to eat Stepney buns, and to regale themselves with ale, cyder, &c.

There was a church here so long ago as the time of the Saxons, when it was called the church of all Saints, *Ecclesia omnium Sanctorum*; and we read of the manor of Stepney under

under the reign of William the Conqueror, by the name of Stibenhede, or Stiben's-Heath; but it does not appear when the church changed its name by being dedicated to St. Dunstan, the name it now bears.

When the present church was erected is not recorded; the wall and battlements are built of brick and wrought stone, plastered over; and the roof is covered with lead. It is of a very considerable extent, for it is an hundred and four feet long, though it is no more than fifty-four broad; the height of the roof is thirty-five feet, and that of the tower, with its turret, ninety-two feet. The pillars, arches and windows, are of modern Gothic, and the west porch, built in 1610, has no resemblance to the rest of the building, it being of the Tuscan order. The tower, which is plain and heavy, is supported at the corners by a kind of double buttresses; it is crowned with square plain battlements, without pinnacles, and with a small mean turret; and the same kind of battlements are carried round the body of the church.

On the inside are three galleries and an organ, and the altar-piece is adorned with four Corinthian pilasters, with their entablature and a pediment; these have gilt capitals; with the arms of Queen Anne carved: but what is most singular is a stone on the east side of the portico, leading up to the gallery, on which is the following inscription.

Of Carthage great I was a stone,
 O mortals read with pity!
 Time consumes all, it spareth none,
 Men, mountains, towns, nor city:
 Therefore O mortals! all bethink
 You where unto you must,
 Since now such stately buildings
 Lie buried in the dust.

It is probable this stone was really brought from Carthage, otherwise this inscription would scarcely be permitted to be there; but as a modern author observes, it is to be hoped, that he who ordered it to be fixed there did not go to Carthage on purpose to fetch it.

Among the great number of tomb-stones in this church-yard, there is a very handsome one to the memory of Sir John Leake, an eminent English Admiral. And at the east end of the church-yard, near the church, is a monument of white

white marble, adorned with a cherub, urn, palm-branches, and a coat of arms, under which is the following inscription:

Here lieth interred the body of Dame Rebecca Berry, the wife of Thomas Elton of Stratford Bow, Gent. who departed this life April 16, 1696, aged 52.

Come ladies, you that would appear
Like angels fair, come dress you here;
Come dress you at this marble stone
And make that humble Grace your own,
Which once adorn'd as fair a mind,
As e'er yet lodg'd in woman kind.
So she was dress'd, whose humble life
Was free from pride, was free from strife:
Free from all envious brawls and jars
(Of human life the civil wars)
These ne'er disturb'd her peaceful mind,
Which still was gentle, still was kind.
Her very looks, her garb, her mien,
Disclos'd the humble soul within.
Trace her through ev'ry scene of life,
View her as widow, virgin, wife,
Still the same humble she appears,
The same in youth, the same in years;
The same in low and high estate,
Ne'er vex'd with this, ne'er mov'd with that.
Go, ladies, now, and if you'd be
As fair, as great, as good as she,
Go learn of her humility. }

Near the south side of the church on a marble tombstone, adorned with a coat of arms, are the following lines on Capt. Thomas Chevers, his wife, and a son who died at five days old.

Reader, consider well how poor a span,
And how uncertain is the life of man:
Here lie the husband, wife, and child, by death
All three in five days time deprived of breath.
The child dies first, the mother on the morrow
Follows, and then the father dies with sorrow.
A Cæsar falls by many wounds, well may
Two stabs at heart the stoutest captain slay.

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On a stone near the foot path on the north west side, is the following inscription :

Whoever treadeth on this stone,
I pray you tread most neatly,
For underneath the same doth lye
Your honest friend Will. Wheatly.

The last inscription we shall mention is the following short one, on the south-west side of the church.

Here lies the body of Daniel Saul,
Spittlefields weaver, and that is all.

P O P L A R.

This is a hamlet of Stepney, situated on the Thames, and obtained its name from the great number of poplar trees that anciently grew there. The chapel of Poplar was erected in the year 1654, when the ground upon which it was built, together with the church yard, were given by the East India company, and the edifice erected by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants and others; since which time that Company has not only allowed the Minister a convenient dwelling house, with a garden and field containing about three acres, but has allowed him 20l. per annum during pleasure.

Poplar Marsh, called the Isle of Dogs, from the great noise made by the King's hounds that were kept there during the residence of the royal family at Greenwich, is rather an isthmus than an island, and is reckoned one of the richest spots of ground in England; for it not only raises the largest cattle, but the grass it bears is esteemed a great restorative of all distempered cattle.

Here are two alms-houses, besides an hospital belonging to the East India company.

Blackwall is chiefly noted for ship-carpenters, and other artists employed in making utensils for the navy, and is one of the greatest rendezvous of the East-India ships.

S T R A T F O R D - L E - B O W.

This is a village in Middlesex, commonly known by the name of Bow, a little to the east of Mile-end, and is divided from Stratford in Essex by the river Lea, over which here is a stone-bridge, of which we have already made mention*.

tion*. The church is very ancient, being built by Henry II. adjoining to which is a good free-school. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth this village was noted for bakers; for it is said that all the persons of that profession who supplied London with bread, then resided here. From hence it was carried to London in carts, and sold to the people at their own doors. There is at present a considerable manufactory carried on here, for making of porcelain, which is brought to such perfection as to be little inferior to that of China. There are also great numbers of scarlet dyers and callico printers reside here, for the conveniency of water and grounds to dry their clothes. There is a fair held here in Whitsun-week.—A little to the south of this village is another named *Bromley*, which is pleasantly situated, wherein there are many handsome houses.

HAVING described the most remarkable places, public edifices, royal palaces, and seats, within the distance of twenty miles round London, we shall now proceed to treat of other parts of the kingdom, and to give an account of such other places, elegant seats, and splendid edifices, and other curious particulars, as may be most deserving the attention of the inquisitive reader.

C H E L M S F O R D.

This is a considerable town in the county of Essex, which is situated at the confluence of two rivers, the Chelmer and the Cann; from the former of which it derived its name. It is the county town, and is distant from London twenty-nine miles. The town consists but of four streets, but is regular and well-built. The entrance to it from the London road is over an old stone bridge, built by Maurice, Bishop of London in the reign of Henry the First. As soon as this is passed over, a spacious street presents itself to the view of the traveller, at the upper end of which, upon a little ascent, stands the shire-house. Each street lies with an easy descent towards the center, and is washed with a current of clear water. The Chelmer and the Cann form here an angle; along which lie many pleasure gardens, and some of them are agreeably laid out.

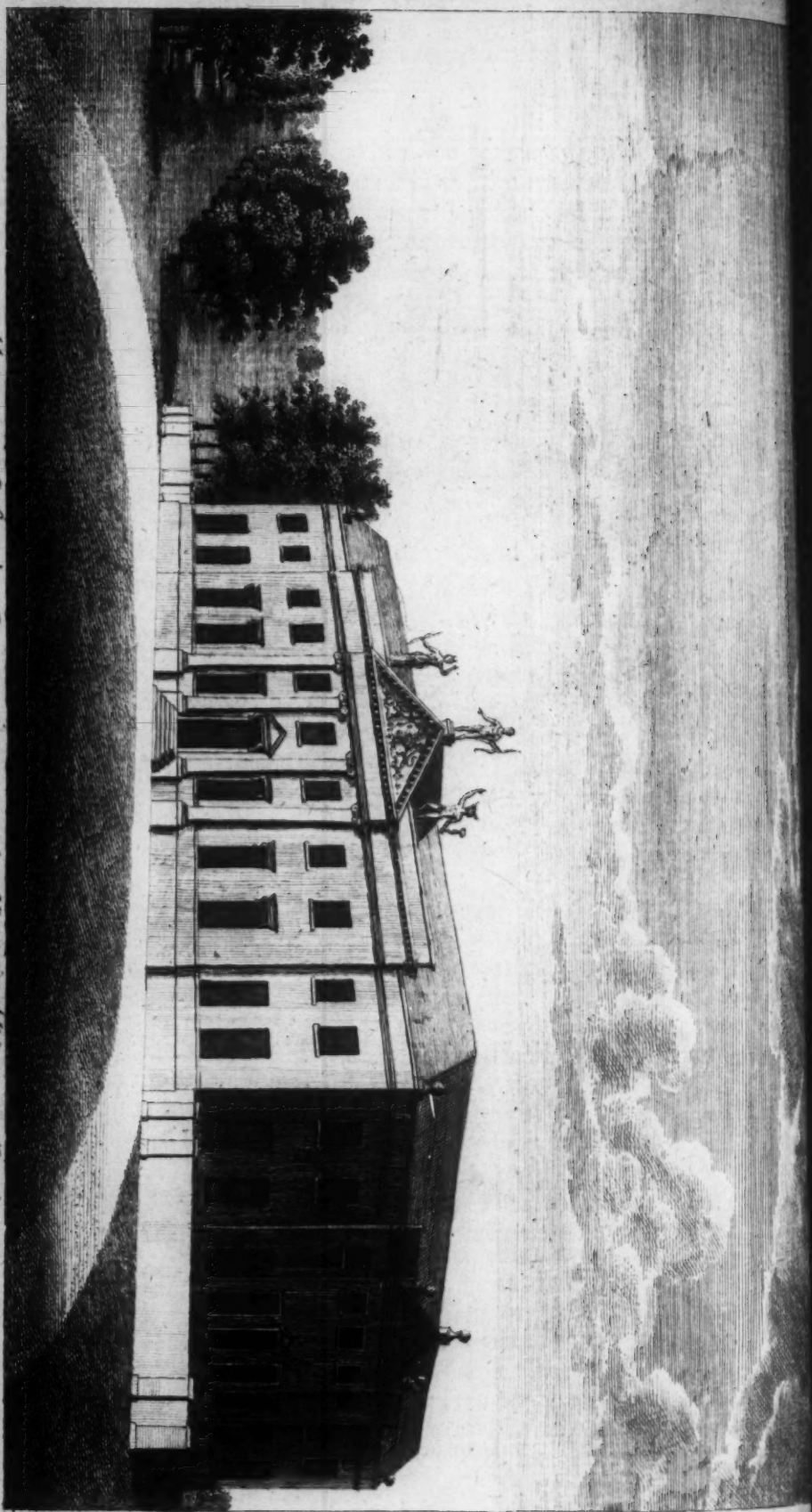
In an open space, nearly a square, adjoining to the shire-house,

* See page 55, 56.

The South East View of Chelmsford Church, in the County of Essex.



Newsham Hall in Essex, the Seat of J. W. Mildmay Esq.



house, stands a conduit. It is of a quadrangular form, about fifteen feet high, built with stone and brick: it has four pipes, one on each side, from which the purest water is perpetually flowing. The following inscription is on the side that fronts the part from whence the spring rises. ' This conduit in one minute runs one hoghead and a half, and four gallons and a half. In one day 2262 hogheads and 54 gallons. In one month 63,360 hogheads. And in one year 825,942 hogheads and 54 gallons.'

The assizes, general quarter sessions, and other county courts, are held at Chelmsford; and here likewise are held the elections for the knights of the shire; and here stands the county-goal. The great road from London to Colchester, to Harwich, to Suffolk, and many parts of Norfolk, lies through this town; so that it is furnished with several good inns. Adjoining to the shire-house is a good market-place, where a market is held every Friday, supplied with corn, meat, fish, fowls, &c. The church is an handsome ancient structure, situated at the end of the town. There are several handsome monuments in it erected in memory of the Mildmay family; one in particular for Benjamin Mildmay, Earl of Fitzwalter.—There is a good free-school in this town, which was founded by King Edward the Sixth, besides two other charity-schools.

Sir William Mildmay, Bart. has a very handsome seat near this town, known by the name of MOULSHAM HALL. It is pleasantly situated on an easy ascent, about a quarter of a mile on the east side of Chelmsford. The grand front commands Danbury-hill. It is a very regular edifice, and on the top of it are three statues, representing Diana, Apollo, and Mercury: under these are the family arms in basso relievo, carved in free-stone. The other parts of the house have a view of the London road, of the town of Chelmsford, and of the park and gardens. It was re-built by the late Earl of Fitzwalter, and was so constructed as to be at once elegant and commodious. The pilasters, cornices, entablatures, and other decorations, are of stone. In the inside is a quadrangular court flagged. It has a gallery on each floor round it, by which means an easy access is obtained to all the different apartments, without the inconveniency of making any of them a passage.

The principal rooms are large and well-disposed. The grand hall at the entrance is lofty, and the cieling curiously wrought

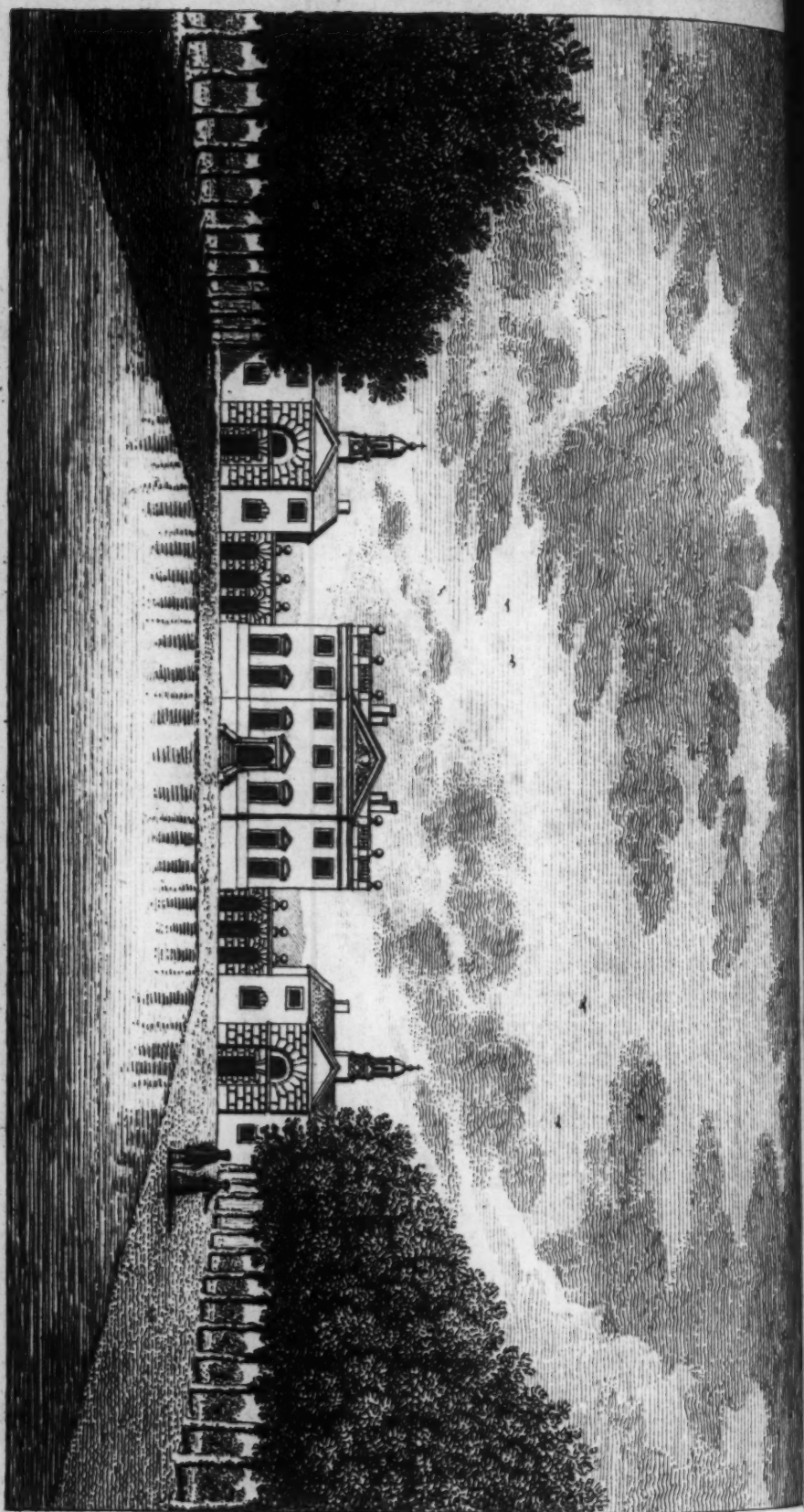
wrought with fret-work. In the breakfast room are many pictures of the Mildmay family, some of which are well-executed. Among these are Sir William Mildmay, who was chancellor of the exchequer in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and founder of Emanuel College, Cambridge. The great picture room contains several family portraits; and here is also a good piece of the old Duke of Schombergh on horseback, attended by a black, who carries his helmet. In the little picture room contiguous to this, are some good paintings: on the right hand the door is seen an half length of an old woman in a white hood, whose distorted features shew the utmost distress. Upon her shoulder a caterpillar is seen crawling, which is said not only to have caused the violent agitation apparent in her face, but also her death. Here is also an antique painting of Matilda, daughter to the Lord Robert Fitzwalter, who was said to be poisoned in the abbey of Dunmow by King John. And in another room here, is a picture of one Sir Henry Mildmay, a branch of this family, representing him as dead and laid out, covered with a black velvet pall. It is said that he died abroad, and that a faithful servant, who accompanied him, employed a limner to draw him after his decease. It is so well done, as to strike the beholder at first sight with some degree of horror; and for this reason has been removed from the collection to an anti-chamber.—The gardens belonging to this seat are neatly laid out, and here is also a park prettily disposed.

Facing Moulsham Hall are six alms-houses, which were founded by Sir Thomas Mildmay, Bart. and Anne his wife, for six poor people. And at a little distance from hence there was formerly an house of dominican friars. The building was very strong, being a composition of brick, flint, and free-stone. The kitchen remained till within these few years, and was esteemed a great curiosity; the room being supported and decorated in the manner of the theatre in Oxford. The site of it is now called *the Friars*.—In a field called Long-stumps, between Moulsham hall and Gallywood common, formerly stood a chapel, which belonged to the abbey of St. Osyth.

N E W - H A L L.

This seat is now the property of Lord Waltham, and is situated in the parish of Boreham, which is three miles from Chelmsford. It is not certainly known by whom this edifice was erected; but it is supposed to have been built by Butler, Earl

The seat of Rich. Warren Esq. near Boreham, in Essex.



Earl of Ormond, in the reign of King Henry VII. It was once made a place of royal residence by King Henry VIII. who in 1524 kept the feast of St. George here. It afterwards came into the possession of George Monk, Duke of Albermarle, famous for the share he had in bringing about the Restoration, who lived here in great pomp. The late Lord Waltham took down a considerable part of this great edifice, and yet reserved enough of it to make a noble and commodious country seat for himself, to which he added several new offices. It must, indeed, in its primitive grandeur, have been a house of extraordinary size, if what is very confidently said be true, namely, that what is now left is only one tenth part of the original building.

The great hall is one of the noblest in the kingdom. At the entrance of it the beholder is struck with its grandeur, it being upwards of forty feet high, ninety in length, and fifty wide. Opposite to the grand entrance, is another door, which formerly led into a spacious court: over this are the arms of Henry VIII. done in basso relievo in free stone, and well executed. The present Lord Waltham has greatly improved this seat, and is now laying out the gardens and park with much taste. He has made a noble piece of water in the new gardens behind the house, and erected near it a good green-house. He has likewise added to the other buildings a new wing for stables and coach-houses. The avenue which leads from the great road to the house is near a mile long, and has double rows of lofty trees on each side. It is reckoned the finest in England, and gives a very venerable air to this magnificent mansion.

In the same parish, Richard Hoare, Esq; an eminent banker in London, has a fine seat. It is beautifully situated at the top of an avenue of trees, between which is a fine piece of water, extending from the road nearly to the house. The house itself is not very large, but of an elegant construction, built of white brick: the inside is adorned with marble chimney-pieces, and other decorations, the spoils of the antient mansion of New-hall. The gardens are prettily disposed behind it; from these runs a delightful lawn down to the banks of the Chelmer, which, together with Danbury-hill, and various other beautiful objects that here meet the eye, furnish a most agreeable landscape.

Boreham church is an antient edifice, and there are here the remains of a fine monument in the Suffex chapel, which

was erected to perpetuate the memory of the noble family of that name. There are three alabaster figures of Robert Radcliff, Henry Radcliff, and Thomas Radcliff, Earls of Suffex; and in the vault, which is very neat, are twelve coffins, containing the remains of these noblemen, and others of the same family. Some of them have inscriptions on one side, and a star and garter on the other. Others are cast in a human shape, with eyes, nose, mouth, &c. This ancient chapel and monument were for many years in a ruinous state, it being a subject of dispute to whom it belonged to preserve and repair them. But Richard Hoare, Esq; having obtained a faculty to convert the chapel into a place of interment for his family, has repaired it for that purpose at a considerable expence.

In the church-yard is erected a Mausoleum for the Waltham family, in imitation of the Temple of the Winds at Athens. It is built with white brick and stone: the remains of the late Lord Waltham are here deposited.

About three miles from Chelmsford is the parish of *Widford*, wherein John Richard Comyns, Esq; has an handsome seat. It is a neat modern built house, surrounded by a good park and pleasant gardens, well watered. It is called *Highlands*, from the loftiness of its situation; which circumstance renders it very delightful, from the several pleasing prospects it commands. It was erected by the late Sir John Comyns, Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

I N G A T E S T O N E.

This is a market-town in Essex, six miles from Chelmsford, and twenty-three from London. It consists chiefly of inns, being a post-town, and the great thoroughfare to Norfolk, Suffolk, Harwich, and Colchester. A considerable market for live cattle is held here every Wednesday; and a very large fair is annually held here on the first of December, the principal commodity of which is also live cattle.

Ingatesstone Hall, the property of Lord Petre, is a venerable stately pile of building, having within a spacious court, and before it is another, round which are the offices. It lies very low, but upon that account is well supplied with waters, and stored with fish-ponds; and the gardens are laid out in an elegant manner.—In the same parish is also a very good modern-built house, called *the Hide*; which was built by

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by the late Timothy Brand, Esq; who was high-sheriff of the county of Essex in 1721, and it is now in possession of Thomas Brand, Esq.—Ingatestone church is a good brick edifice, and contains some handsome monuments in memory of the Petre family.

In the parish of *Margaretting*, which joins to Ingatestone and Widford, Richard Holden, Esq; has a pleasant mansion-house, known by the name of *Cold Hall*. It is an elegant modern building, situated on an eminence, with gardens well laid out.—There is also in this parish, on the left hand side of the road leading from Chelmsford to Ingatestone, a very good house belonging to Humphrey Sidney, Esq. Before the house is a pleasant avenue of stately trees.—There is a manor in this parish, named Shenfield, which is said to have been one of the houses of pleasure where King Henry VIII. used to resort to his mistresses. The house lay in a bottom, had many large buildings about it, and was surrounded by a moat. It had a draw-bridge, at the extremity of which were two strong watch-towers, of brick; and there was a chapel adjoining to the house. But most of the original buildings, if not all, are now pulled down, and it is become the habitation of a private gentleman.

Tradition says, that there was more than one place in the county of Essex, to which Henry VIII. used occasionally to retire with his mistresses. At some distance from hence is the parish of Blackmore, which he is reported to have made use of for his amorous retreats. The manor-house of Blackmore is also called Jericho; and we are told, that when Harry chose to retreat from public business, and indulge himself in the embraces of his courtezans, the cant phrase among the courtiers was, “He was gone to Jericho.” He is also said to have made use of Newland-Hall in this country for the same purpose. But, in truth, much more is said of Henry’s mistresses by the traditionary reports of the people of Essex, than is to be met with in our historians.

In the parish of *Great Waltham*, which is about four miles from Chelmsford, John Jolliff Tuffnel, Esq; has an handsome seat, about a quarter of a mile from the church, known by the name of *Langleys*. It stands on a pleasant eminence; the foot and sides of which are washed by the river Chelmer on the north, and a brook on the south. There is
a good

a good park around it and pleasant gardens. Great Waltham church is a strong brick building, and contains some handsome monuments.

W I T H A M.

This a neat and pleasant town, about thirty-seven miles from London, and between eight and nine from Chelmsford. It is a post-town, and contains some good inns. It has a market for grain on Tuesdays, and two fairs are held here annually, one on the Monday before Whitsunday, and the other on the 14th of September.—Edward, the son of King Alfred, commonly called Edward the Elder, built this town in the beginning of his reign, and resided at Malden during the time it was building.—Witham church stands upon an eminence, about half a mile west from the town. The walls both of the church and steeple are of Roman flint, except the top of the tower, which is brick. There are some monuments in the church, two of which are antient.

At the entrance into Witham from the Colchester road, upon the left hand, is a good house and gardens belonging to the Earl of Abercorn; and General Douglas has also an handsome house in the same parish.

In the parish of *Great Brackstead*, which is about three miles from Witham, Peter Du Cane, Esq; has an elegant seat, called *Braxted Lodge*. It is surrounded by a park, and stands upon an eminence which commands an agreeable prospect of the neighbouring country.—Charles Buxton, Esq; has also a good house in the same parish, with spacious gardens well watered.

Kelvedon is four miles from Witham, and about a mile from the former is *Felix Hall*, the seat of Daniel Matthews, Esq. It is a handsome edifice, situated on an eminence, and around it is a small park. The gardens are laid out with elegance, and have in them green-houses, and hot-houses, and every other requisite to render them useful as well as pleasing.

C O G G E S H A L L.

This is a market-town in Essex, about seven miles from Witham, and forty-four from London. It stands partly on the declivity of a hill, and is pleasantly situated; and is pretty



Felix Hall in Essex the Seat of Dan^l. Matthews Esq.

pretty large and populous. Here is a market on Thursday for corn, and an annual fair on Whitfun Tuesday. The church is a spacious and lofty edifice, and stands pleasantly at the upper end of the town, having a good prospect southward.

Hereabouts have been found the remains of some antient little Roman station, or villa, adjoining to the road which leads to the town. An arched vault of brick was discovered, and in it a burning lamp of glass, covered with a Roman tile, about fourteen inches square, and an urn with ashes and bones, and other antiquities.—Osgood Hanbury, Esq; has a good seat, with a park, near this town, known by the name of *Oldfield Grange*.

An Abbey was founded at Coggeshall, in the year 1142, by King Stephen, and his Queen Maud, for Cistercian or White Monks, and dedicated to the virgin Mary. The remains of the abbey stand within the precincts of Little Coggeshall, near the river: it was a Gothic edifice, but is now mostly demolished.

In the parish of *Markshall*, which is two miles from Coggeshall, General Honeywood, who is lord of the manor, has a fine seat. It is an handsome edifice, pleasantly situated near the church, on the rising ground. The gardens, park, and fish-ponds, contribute to make it a very pleasing retirement. In the dining room is an original painting of Mrs. Mary Waters, or Honeywood, in a widow's habit. This memorable person was born at Lenham in Kent, and is said to have continued 44 years a widow, and then arriving to the age of 93, saw 367 children lawfully descended from her, 16 of her own body, 114 grand-children, 228 in the third generation, and nine in the fourth.

B R A I N T R E E.

This town is about six miles from Coggeshall, and forty from London; and is a great thoroughfare from London into Suffolk and Norfolk. The buildings are mostly old, and of timber; but somewhat improved of late by a few new ones of brick and plaister. Here is a market every Wednesday, well supplied with all kinds of necessaries, and at which vast quantities of corn, malt, and hops, are sold by sample. Two fairs are held here annually; one on the second of October, which holds three days; and the other on the

the eighth of May, which lasts the same time; the principal traffic of which is live cattle, butter, and cheese.

In the parish of *Black Notley*, which is at a little distance from Braintree, there is a handsome monument in the church-yard in memory of that celebrated naturalist, Mr. John Ray, which was erected at the expence of Henry Compton, Bishop of London. Mr. Ray was born at Black Notley, being the son of a blacksmith there, and was also interred there in 1706.

B O C K I N G.

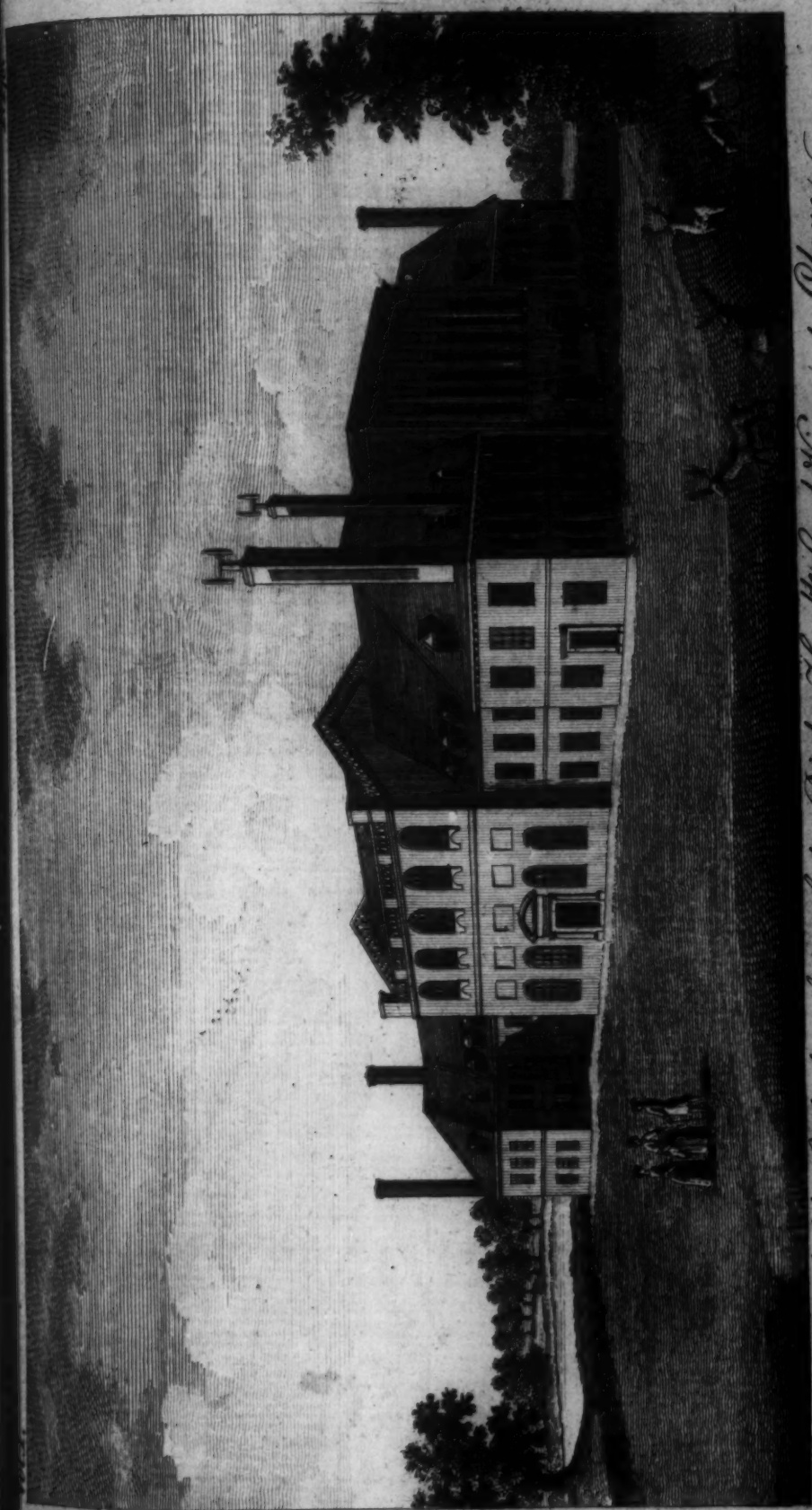
This is one of the most considerable villages in the county of Essex: it consists chiefly of one street, in which the baize-trade is carried on to a very great amount. The church is a spacious building, situated upon an eminence. Here is also a large meeting-house, and another belonging to the quakers.—An urn of old coins, mostly Vespasian's, was some time since found in the grounds belonging to High Garret, in this parish.

In the parish of *Gosfield*, Lord Clare has a very handsome seat, known by the name of GOSFIELD HALL. It is situated at a small distance from the church, and is surrounded by an extensive park, and has also elegant gardens.

D U N M O W.

This is a very antient town, situated pleasantly on a hill, at the distance of thirty-seven miles from London. The trade of this place is inconsiderable, but a manufacture of bays and blankets is carried on here. In the center of the town stands what is called the market-cross, which is a very antient edifice: and over against this is the guildhall, in which the town officers meet to transact the corporation-business. The market is on Saturday, and here are two fairs held, for toys only, one of which is on the 6th of May, and the other on the 8th of November. The church stands near a mile north from the main street, in a bottom, and is a large neat building.

In the parish of *Little Dunmow*, which is two miles from the town of Dunmow, there was formerly a priory. It stood in a delightful situation, but is now entirely decayed. In this priory were maintained a prior, and ten or eleven canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine. — Amongst the



Gosfield Hall the Seat of the Right Hon. the Lord Viscount Clave.

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the jocular tenures of England, none have been more talked of than the BACON at DUNMOW. It does not appear who instituted this custom, but it is generally supposed to be one of the family of Fitzwalter. The prior and canons were obliged to deliver the bacon to the person who took the following oath.

- ‘ You shall swear, by custom of confession,
- ‘ That you ne’er made nuptial transgression;
- ‘ Nor since you were married Man and Wife,
- ‘ By household brawls or contentious strife,
- ‘ Or otherwise, in bed or at board,
- ‘ Offended each other in deed or in word;
- ‘ Or since the parish-clerk said Amen,
- ‘ Wished yourselves unmarried agen;
- ‘ Or in a twelvemonth and a Day
- ‘ Repented not in thought any way,
- ‘ But continued true in thought and desire
- ‘ As when you joined hands in holy quire;
- ‘ If to these conditions without all fear
- ‘ Of your own accord you will freely swear,
- ‘ A whole Gammon of Bacon you shall receive
- ‘ And bear it hence with love and good leave.
- ‘ For this is our Custom at Dunmow well known,
- ‘ Though the Pleasure be ours, the Bacon’s your own.’

After this oath was taken, the claimant of the bacon was taken in a chair provided for the purpose, and still kept in the church, and carried first about the priory church-yard, and after through the town, with all the priory brethren, his bacon being borne before him, and t^e town’s people attending with shouts and acclamations; and in this manner he was conveyed home.

In the chartulary, or register-book of t^e priory, now preserved in the *British Museum*, there are entries and memorandums of persons who have at several times received the bacon; namely, Richard Wright, of Badeburgh, near Norwich, yeoman, in 1445. Samuel Fuller, of Little Easton, husbandman, in 1457. Thomas Fuller, of Coggeshall in 1510.

Since the suppression of the priory this custom is still kept up, and the ceremony is performed at a court baron for this manor by the steward, of which the following are instances: ‘ At a court-baron of Sir Thomas May, knight,

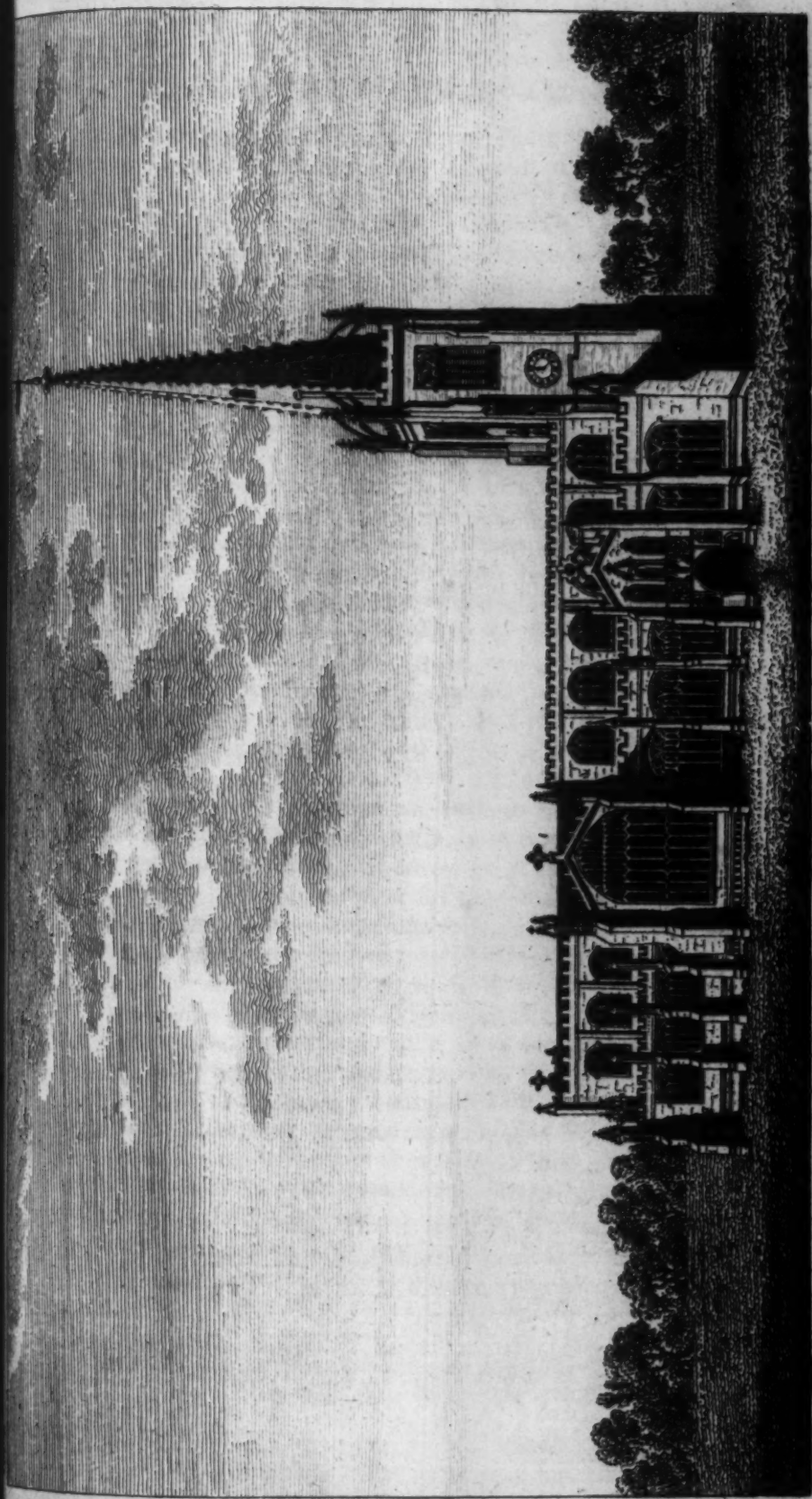
‘ held 7 June, 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, gent. steward, the homage being *five fair ladies*, spinsters, namely, Elizabeth Beaumont, Henrietta Beaumont, Annabella Beaumont, Jane Beaumont, and Mary Wheeler; they found, that John Reynolds of Hatfield Broad Oak, gent. and Anne his wife, and William Parsley, of Great Easton, butcher, and his wife Jane, by means of their *quiet and peaceable, tender and loving* cohabitation for the space of three years last past and upwards, were fit and qualified persons to be admitted by the court to receive the ancient and accustomed oath, whereby to entitle themselves to have the bacon of Dunmow delivered to them according to the custom of the manor. Accordingly having taken the oath, kneeling on the two great stones near the church door, the bacon was delivered to each couple.’ — The last who received it were John Shakeshanks, wool-comber, and Anne his wife, of Wethersfield, on the 20th of June, 1751.

T H A X T E D

Is an antient town in Essex, six miles from Dunmow, and forty-two from London. There is but little trade in this place: but here are two fairs annually, one held on the 10th of August, and the other on the Sunday after the Ascension. This town is chiefly remarkable for its church, which is the finest in the county. It is a noble Gothic building; and the length of it is an hundred and eighty-three feet, and the breadth eighty-seven feet, in the inside, exclusive of the thickness of the walls, and the projection of the buttresses. It is three hundred and forty-five yards in circumference. It is built cathedral-wise, with a cross-isle; and consists of a spacious and lofty body with north and south isles. At the west end stands a noble tower, and spire, all of free-stone, the perpendicular height of which, from the summit of the vane to the ground-floor, is sixty yards, and one foot.

S A F F R O N W A L D E N.

This is a large and populous town, seven miles from Thaxted, and forty-two from London. The neighbouring fields were formerly chiefly appropriated to the cultivation of saffron, from which circumstance it derived part of its name; but that plant is now chiefly cultivated more westward, in
and



A View of Shacketed Church in Essex.

and about the confines of Cambridgeshire. Saffron is said to have been first brought into Essex in the reign of King Edward III. and Essex and Cambridgeshire saffron is accounted the best in the world. There is a great deal of the malting business carried on at Saffron-Walden: here is likewise a manufacture for bolting cloths, and for checks and fustians. Many of the poor are employed in the making of sacks, and in spinning of fine yarn for the manufactories in Norwich. Many of the inhabitants are dissenters, who have a meeting-house for the Independents, another for the Baptists, and a third for the Quakers. It has a large market weekly on Saturday, and two fairs annually; one on the Sunday in Mid-lent, for horses, &c. and the other on the first of November, for cows, &c.—The church is an ancient and stately structure, situated nearly in the center of the town. On the south-side of the chancel are steps which lead to a vault, the burial place of the Suffolk family. The remains of six Earls of Suffolk are deposited here, and of others of the same noble family. And under the south arch of the chancel is an elegant altar monument, erected to the memory of Lord Audley, high chancellor of England, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth.

There was a priory founded here in 1136, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex; and in the year 1190 it was converted into an abbey. The site of it was near the great pond by the bowling-green at Saffron-Walden, where foundations and bones have been dug up.

About a mile south of Saffron-Walden is AUDLEY-HOUSE, or as it is more frequently called, AUDLEY-END, which is at present the seat of Sir John Griffin Griffin, who is colonel of the 33d regiment of foot, and a lieutenant-general. It was built by Thomas Lord Audley of Walden, who was created Earl of Suffolk by King James the First, to whom he was treasurer. The Earl designed it as a palace for his majesty, and when it was finished presented it to him; but the King, when he saw its vast extent and magnificence, said that "it would suit very well a lord treasurer, but was too much for a king." It remained, therefore, in the possession of the Earls of Suffolk during that and the succeeding reign; but it was afterwards purchased by King Charles the Second; who not being able to pay for it, mortgaged the hearth tax to the then Earls, as a security for the money. This tax was taken off soon after the revolution, but the
state

state not being then in a condition to pay the money for which it had been pledged, the house was granted back again to the family. It was then the largest royal palace in the kingdom: the expence of erecting it is said to have amounted to 190,000*l*. The mere model of it in wood is said to have cost 500*l*. It consisted of two courts, one of which, and part of the other, including a gallery 226 feet long, 32 wide, and 24 high, were taken down by Henry Earl of Suffolk between sixty and seventy years ago. The part of it which is now remaining is only a fourth of its original extent. Before the west-front of it are many lawns, rising to the view, and watered by the river Cam, cut in the form of a fine canal, over which are two elegant bridges. The east front commands an extensive park, walled in, and a view of the church and town of Saffron-Walden. The south-side looks into a curious piece of clumped pleasure ground, called the Mount Garden; and the north into a lawn, several plantations, and a neighbouring village.

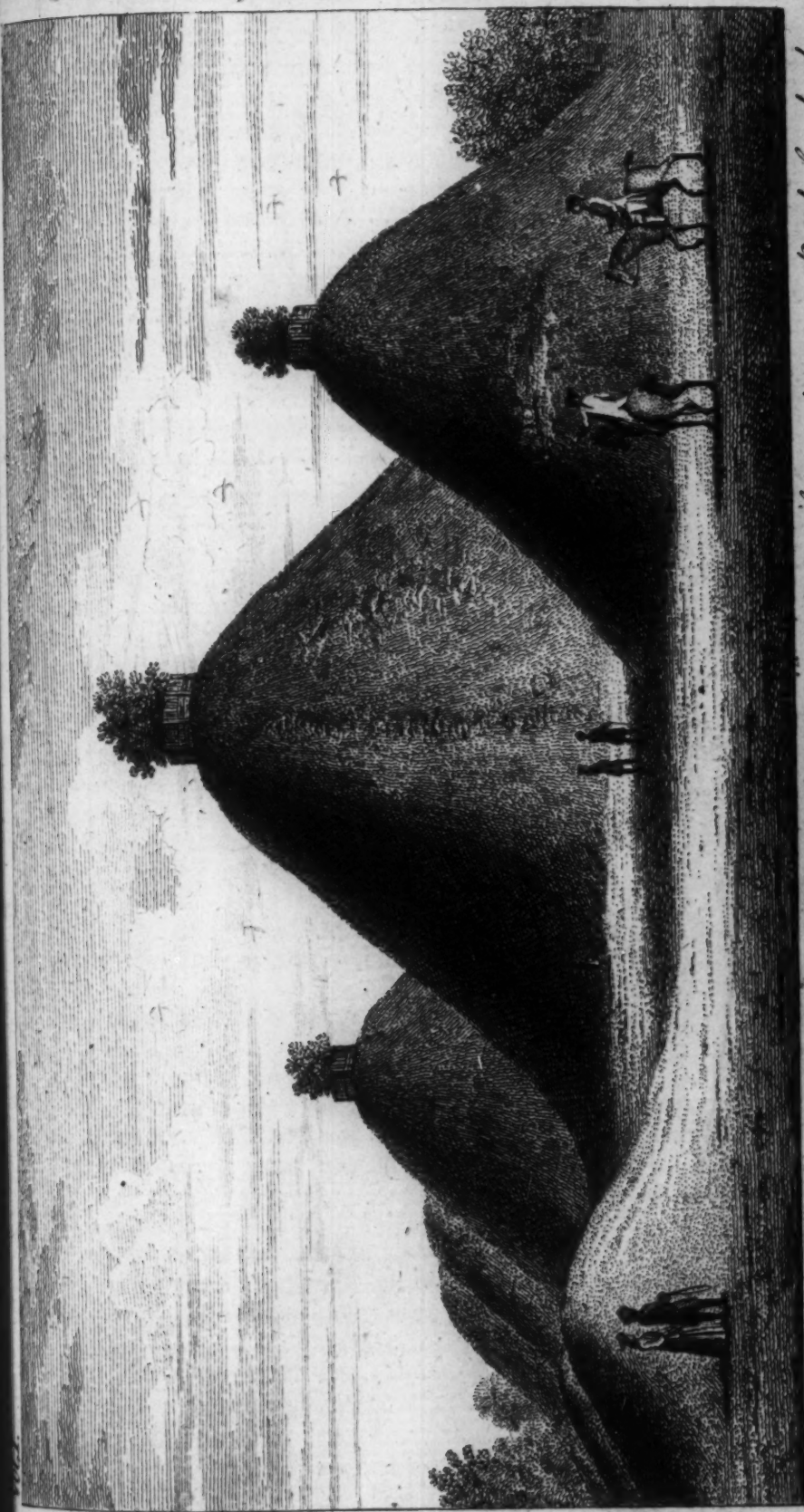
At *Ashdon*, about three miles north-west of Saffron-Walden, there are four barrows, or pyramidal hills, which were erected by Canute the Dane, over the bodies of those who were killed in a battle which was fought here, and in which Canute totally defeated the army of Edmund Ironside, and took most of the nobility who attended him prisoners. One of these hills being dug into or opened, there were found, in a stone coffin, two bodies, one of which lay with his head towards the others feet; also two other stone coffins were found with pieces of bones in them, and many chains of iron, about the size of those belonging to horses bits.

At *Chesterford*, a village four miles north of Saffron-Walden, some years ago the ruins of a Roman city were discovered: the foundations of the walls take in a compass of about fifty acres; and the foundations of a Roman temple were not long since very visible.

In the parish of *Hadstock*, which joins to that of *Ashdon*, is a very antient church, the north door of which is much adorned with thick bars of iron work, of an irregular form, underneath which is a sort of a skin, said to be that of a Danish king: it is nailed on with large nails.

There is a tradition about the church door of *Copford* parish, which is about five miles from Colchester, of which Mr. Newcourt gives us the following account. He says,

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A View of the Hills near Ashdon, in Essex, raised over y^e bodies of those slain in a Battle fought there.

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it was ' taken notice of in the year 1690, when an old man
' at Colchester hearing Copford mentioned, said, that in his
' young time, he heard his master say, that he had read in
' an old history, that the church of Copford was robbed
' by the Danes, and their skins nailed to the doors; upon
' which, some gentlemen being curious, went thither, and
' found a sort of tanned skin, thicker than parchment, which
' is supposed to be human skin, nailed to the door of the said
' church, underneath the said iron-work, some of which skin
' is still to be seen."

C A S T L E H E D I N G H A M.

This place, which is about forty-eight miles from London, was the castle and chief seat of the noble family of De Vere, Earls of Oxford, on which account the appellation of castle is prefixed to it. The greater part of the castle is demolished; but the remaining tower is one hundred and ten feet, from the ground to the top of the four-square large turrets at the corners. It is said there were three other towers, and in its perfect state this castle appears to have been very lofty and magnificent.

Queen Maud, wife of King Stephen, died in this castle. It was reckoned a place of great strength before the invention of gunpowder. It held out some time against King John in 1215; and against the Dauphin Lewis, who had been invited over by some of the barons in 1217.—It was at this castle that King Henry VII. whose avaricious character is well known, made John De Vere, Earl of Oxford, pay so extravagantly for having had the honour of entertaining him. The King having been feasted in a very sumptuous manner by the Earl, at his going away, the Earl's servants and tenants stood in their livery coats, with cognizances, ranged on both sides, and made the King a lane to pass through them. Upon this Henry called the Earl to him, and said, " My Lord, I have heard much of your hospitality, " but I see it is greater than the speech. These handsome " gentlemen and yeomen, which I see on both sides of " me, are sure your menial servants." The Earl smiled, and said, " It may please your grace, that were not for " mine ease. They are most of them my retainers, who " are come to do me service at such a time as this, and " chiefly to see your grace." The King started a little, and said, " By my faith, my Lord, I thank you for my good " cheer, but I may not endure to have my laws broken " in

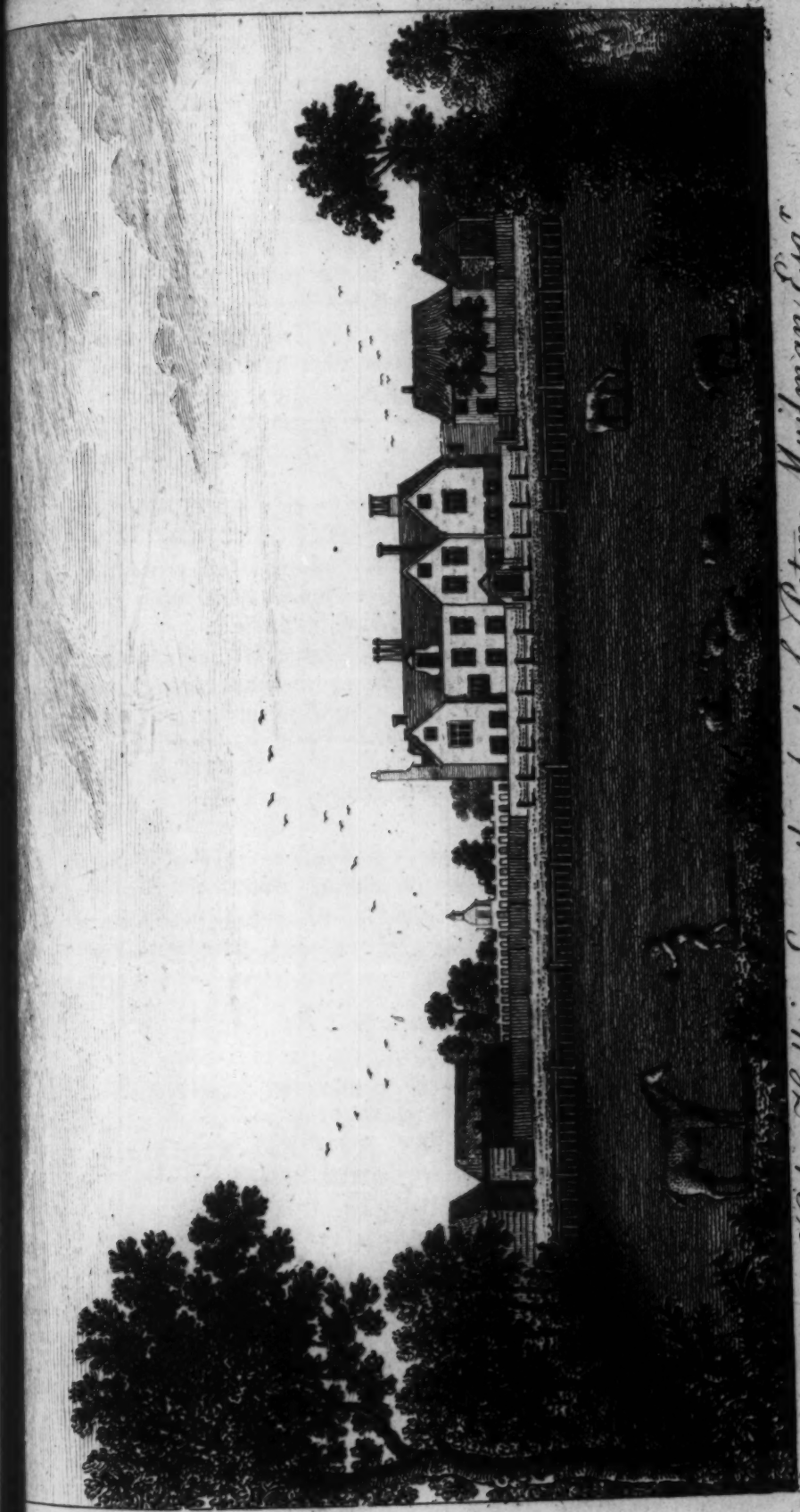
"in my sight. My attorney must speak with you." And accordingly the King obliged him to pay a fine of fifteen thousand marks, for a breach of the statute against retainers.

Hedingham Castle is now the property of Sir Harry Hoghton, Bart. who lately distinguished himself so honourably in the House of Commons, in the promotion of religious liberty; and who has a handsome modern edifice here, in which he occasionally resides. The village is a neat and healthy place, and there are three fairs held here, one on the 3d of May, another on the 23d of July, and the third on the 6th of December.—Sir Harry Hoghton has erected a strong bridge of brick here, consisting of three arches, at his own expence.

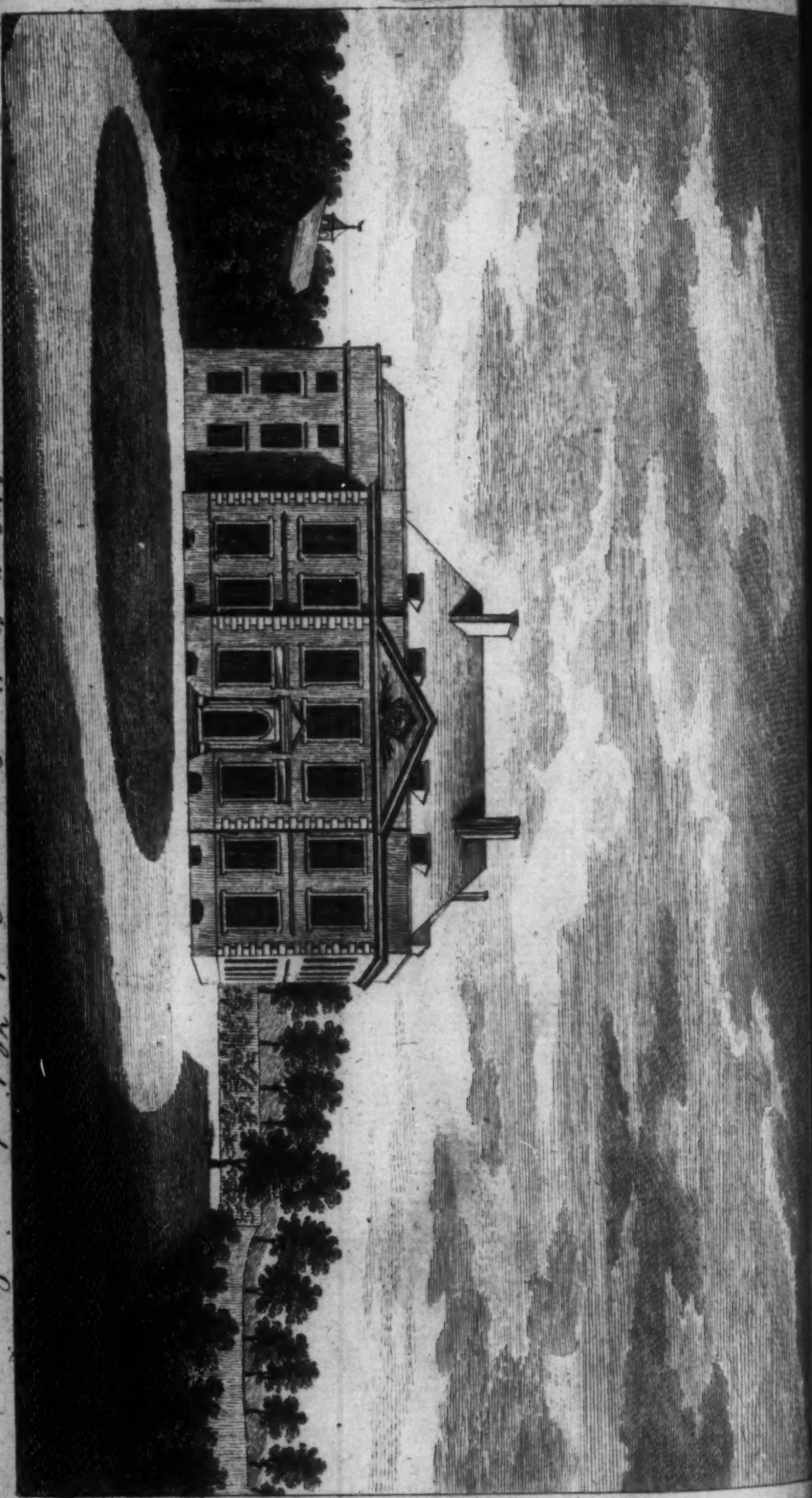
A religious house was founded in this parish, for black-veiled nuns, of the Benedictine order, by Alberic de Vere, the first Earl of Oxford. The nunnery-house is still in being, but converted into a farm-house, and most of the church or chapel belonging to it, is still standing.

In the middle of the chancel of Castle Hedingham church is an handsome and curious marble tomb, containing the remains of John de Vere, the fifth Earl of Oxford of that name. There are also some other handsome monuments in the church.—There is a meeting-house in this parish, and Peter Muilman, Esq; has a good seat here, known by the name of *Kirby-Hall*.

The parish of *Hedingham Sible* joins to this, and in the wall of the south isle of the church there, is part of a superb arch, which formerly contained a magnificent monument in memory of Sir John Hawkwood, who was a very remarkable person, and who was born here. He was the son of Gilbert Hawkwood, a tanner of this place; and was bound apprentice to a taylor in the city of London, where being pressed into the service of King Edward III. then about to make war in France, he behaved himself so gallantly, that he was first made a captain, and then knighted by that prince. When the French war was at an end, he offered his service to the states of Florence, in which he signalized himself so much, that Barnaby Galeazo, Duke of Milan, gave him his daughter *Domania* to wife, by whom he had a son, who was born in Italy, but naturalized and knighted in England in the reign of Henry the Fourth.—Sir John Hawkwood died at a very advanced age in 1394, and was buried in the cathedral church of Santa Maria
Florida

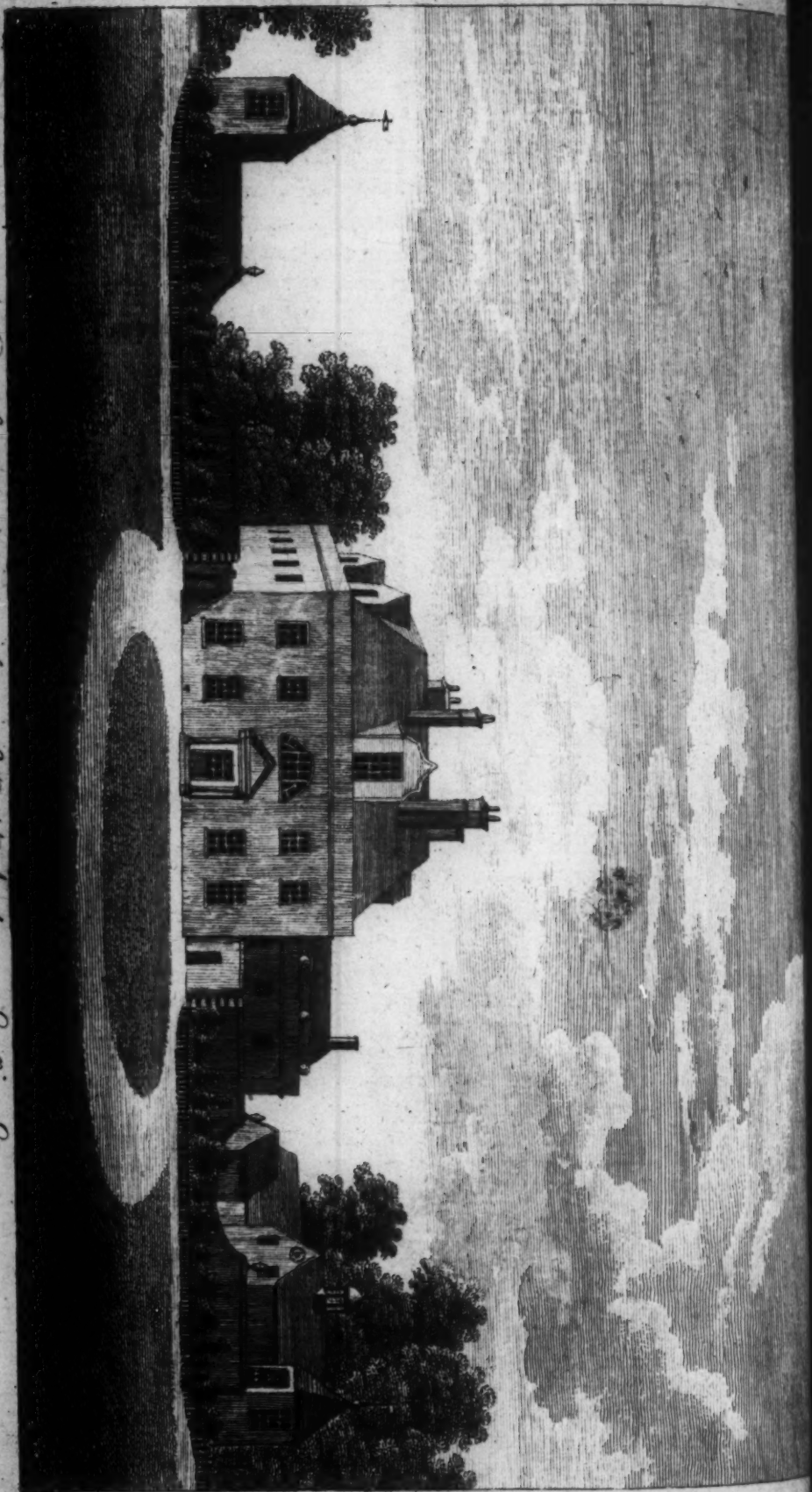


Kirby Hall in Essex, the Seat of Peter Milmann Esq.



Dynas Hall, the Seat of Henry, Esq. near Castle-Hedingham in Essex.

A View of Quebec, the Seat of Robt. Andrew's Esq. in Exce.



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Florida at Florence, where that republic, out of gratitude to his memory and extraordinary deserts, have honoured him with a statue on horseback, and a noble monument. — A manor in the parish of Sible Hedingham, called *Hawkswood's* manor, derives its name from this eminent man.

In the parish of *Bulmer*, which is at a small distance, Robert Andrews, Esq; has an handsome seat, known by the name of *AUBERIES*. It is a modern, regular, and uniform brick building, and is situated upon an eminence, which commands a delightful prospect of the borough of Sudbury, and of some part of Cambridgeshire. It is adorned with gardens laid out in a pleasing taste, and has several ponds belonging to it, well stocked with fish.

H A L S T E A D.

This is a pleasant and healthy town in Essex, at the distance of forty-seven miles from London, situated on the side of a hill, the foot of which is watered by the river Colne. There are many hops produced here, for the excellency of which this town is famous; and a manufactory for bays is established here. A market is held every Friday, and two fairs annually, one on the 6th of May, and the other on the 29th of October, for cattle, hops, and toys. Here is a grammar-school, which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

In the parish of *Great Maplestead*, which is about three miles from Halstead, Henry Sperling, Esq; has an handsome seat, known by the name of *DYNES HALL*. The house is an handsome edifice, a mile south of the church, and situated upon an eminence, commanding a beautiful prospect. The gardens belonging to it are elegant.

C O L C H E S T E R.

This is a very ancient town, in the north-east part of the county of Essex, at the distance of about fifty-one miles from London. It stands upon the north side of a fine eminence, rising gradually from the river Colne, which waters the north and east sides. It is the most considerable town in the county, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, eleven aldermen, eighteen common-councilmen, and other corporation officers. It was last incorporated by King William the Third, and is a liberty of itself, having four wards and sixteen parishes, eight of which are within the walls, and eight without. It is a populous place, and is

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about three miles in circumference: the streets are spacious, and though not in general remarkably well built, yet there are a great many good houses in it, besides the guild-hall, adjoining to which is the town-goal, and a hall called Dutch-baize-hall, belonging to a corporation for the support of the bays and say manufactures, both which are fine buildings. Here are ten parish churches, and three meeting-houses, of which one is for the Quakers. Here are two charity-schools, one for seventy boys, and the other for fifty boys and girls, a work-house, and two free grammar-schools; and there are three bridges upon the river Colne, which was made navigable by act of parliament for small craft up to a long street next the water side, called the Hithe, where there is a Quay, and for ships of large burthen, to a place called the Wyvenhoe, within three miles of the town, where there is a custom-house.

Colchester had formerly the greatest manufactory of bays and says of any in England; but that trade has of late years considerably declined here. This place is also remarkable for candying eringo roots, but much more for its oysters, for which it is particularly famous. They are taken near the mouth of the Colne, upon sands called the Spitts, and are carried up to the Wyvenhoe, where they are laid in beds or pits on the shore to feed; after they have continued in these pits some time, they are barrelled and brought to Colchester, from whence they are sent in great quantities to London and other places. Such shoals of sprats are caught here, and consumed by the woollen manufacturers, that the common name for this fish in Essex is the weavers beef of Colchester.

This town has sent members to parliament from the 23d of Edward I. to the present time; and upwards of fifteen hundred persons are entitled to votes here. There are three market-days in every week in this town, viz. on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; and here are five fairs held, one on the second Tuesday in April, another on the 5th of July, another on the 23d of July, another on the 2d of August, and the last on the 20th of October.

Colchester is supposed by some to be the antient *Camulodunum*; and it has been observed, that there are a greater quantity of Roman remains here than in any other part of Britain; vast quantities of Roman bricks and tiles being to be seen incorporated, and which are indeed the principal ingredients in all the most antient edifices; the town-wall, the castle, and the churches being half built with them. The *Suppellex Romana*
of

of all kinds still abounds, scarcely any places being dug up without discovering urns, vases, and *poterie*, of all sorts, or at least fragments; amongst which is a great deal of the fine glazed and red ware, resembling the most beautiful of that which comes from China. Lamps, rings, intaglias, styles, chains, and sepulchral urns, with the ashes therein, are likewise frequently found. A remarkable urn in particular was taken up a few years ago; it contained twenty gallons, having in it another of two gallons, with the ashes, as is supposed, of a Roman lady, because there were also with it two bottles of clay for incense, two clay lamps, one metal vessel for ointment, and a speculum of polished metal, antiently used for a looking-glass. And there are here a great number of Mosaic or tessellated pavements, about three feet under ground, having black, white, red, and yellow tesserae, and looking like a beautiful carpet. Some of these are preserved, being inclosed and covered. But as to Roman coins and medals, it is said that even bushels have been found in and about this town, and amongst them many gold ones.—The walls of this town are still standing, but very much decayed in some places, particularly on the north side. Where the wall remains perfect, it is faced either with Roman brick, or square stones, about seven or eight inches in diameter.

Colchester cattle stands on the north side of what is called the High-street, and is a square of about two hundred and twenty-four yards in circumference on the outside. The whole building is a mixture of stone and Roman bricks; but most of the Roman bricks are in broken pieces, taken from the ruins of more antient edifices formerly standing in the town. The corners of the walls, and sides of the doors and windows, are of free stone.—In 1631, Dr. Hurnet, archbishop of York, gave to the town of Colchester all his library of books, and they are deposited in the castle. Several additions have since been made to this library; and a very capital addition of valuable books would have been made to it by the late Bishop Compton; but the love of learning was then so prevalent at Colchester, that the bishop's benefaction was neglected, in order to save the expence of carriage!

D E D H A M

Is situated seven miles from Colchester. This was antiently a famous cloathing-town, so early as the reign of King Richard the Second; and the bay-trade extended into it afterwards; but is now greatly upon the decline. The town

is tolerably well built, and there are some very large houses in it. Here is a grammar-school, the governors of which were incorporated by a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth; and that princess particularly enjoined the parents of the boys who were educated at this school, that they should furnish their sons with bows, shafts, bracers, and gloves, in order to train them to arms.—Dedham church is an handsome and spacious building; and the roof of an arch underneath the steeple is finely adorned with the arms of the two families of York and Lancaster, and red and white roses; and at the east side of the battlements there is a statue of Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and coronets all round.

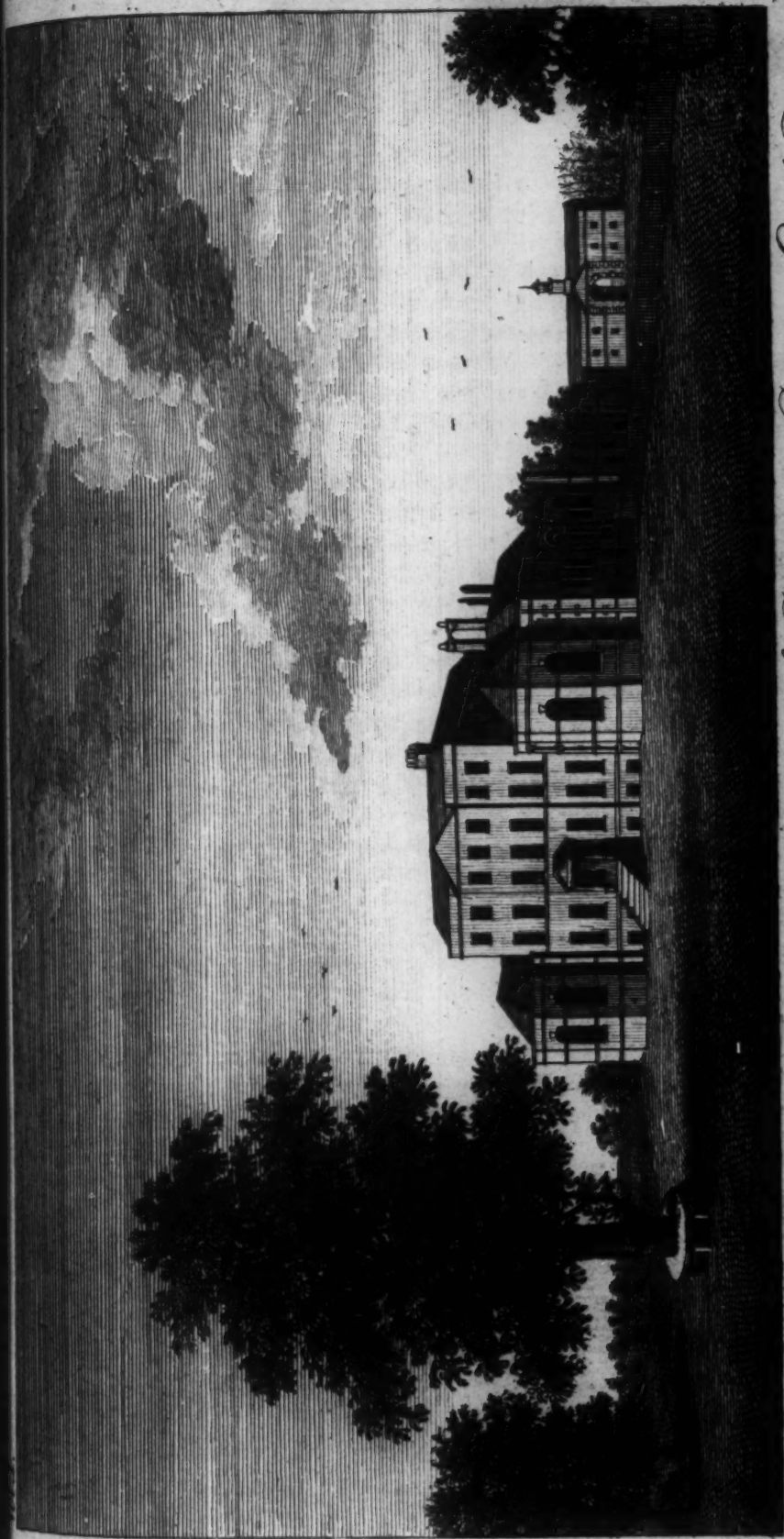
M A N I N G T R E E

Is a market-town in Essex, at the distance of about sixty miles from London. It is situated on the south side of the river Stour, and a considerable trade is carried on here in deals, coals, iron, and corn; and from hence the best whittings, and a quantity of other fish, are carried to Colchester. The market is held here on Thursday, and here is a fair on the 15th of June.—Richard Rigby, Esq; has an handsome seat near this town, known by the name of MISTLEY HALL, which is pleasantly situated on an eminence. It is adorned with extensive gardens, and plantations, laid out in much taste.

At *Mistley Thorn*, the late Richard Rigby, Esq; (father of the present gentleman of the same name, who is well known in the political world) built a village of about thirty brick houses, convenient for tradesmen, and well inhabited. He also built several granaries, warehouses, a large malting office, and made good quays and coal-yards, and there is now a large trade carried on here.—Maningtree church is a neat edifice, and was built at the expence of Mr. Rigby.

H A R W I C H.

This town is at the distance of seventy-two miles from London, and is situated on a cliff or point of land, at the north-east corner of the county of Essex. It is bounded on the east by the sea, and on the north by the mouth of the river Stour, and the haven of Orwell. The washing and undermining of the tides, and the falling of large pieces of the cliff, have made this point a peninsula, and it is apprehended, in a course of years, will make it quite an island. The town
is



Mistley Hall, in Essex, the Seat of Richard Pigby, Esq.

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is not large, but well built, and populous. It was formerly walled round, and had four gates; it had also a castle, and an admiralty house. It was first made a borough by King Edward the Second, and was afterwards incorporated by King James the First. Between this town and a high hill, called Beacon-hill, not far distant, there is a cliff consisting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe, and being afterwards taken out and dried, they become an impenetrable and durable stone, and with this stone the town is paved.

The harbour is very safe, and so spacious, that an hundred sail of men of war, with their tenders, besides three or four hundred sail of colliers, have sometimes been seen here at the same time. The mouth of the harbour at high water, is near three miles wide, but the channel, by which alone the ships can come into the harbour, is deep and narrow, and lies on the Suffolk side; so that all the ships that come in or go out, are commanded by a strong fort, called *Landguard Fort*, which was built by King James the First, on a point of land, so surrounded by the sea at high water, that it looks like an island, lying about a mile from the shore. The town was formerly fortified on the land side, but in the reign of King Charles the First the fortifications were demolished.—There is a Guildhall, and a tolerable good exchange at Harwich; and as it is a sea-port, here is a custom-house, called the King's House, with a collector, comptroller, land-surveyor, tide-surveyor, two land-waiters, and four tide-waiters.

For the guidance of vessels into the harbour, in a room over the chief gate there is a light kept every night with a coal-fire, to which answers a light-house on the town-green below the cliff, with lamps supplied with oil. By means of them ships are conducted clear off a sand called the *Andrews*, into the rolling grounds, where there is good anchorage. The shortest and safest passage between England and Holland being from this port, it brings a considerable number of travellers this way, especially in time of war; for whose conveniency, and the carrying of the mails, there are four packet boats, and in war-time two Dover packet boats. King William, and King George I. and II. usually embarked and landed at this place, in their journies to and from Holland and Hanover.

Here is a good yard for building ships, with store-houses, cranes, launches, and other necessities.—The town-hall and goal

goal were lately pulled down, and re-built with brick; and the private buildings, and pavement of the streets, are of late years much improved. The fishery here is so much increased of late years, that there are now upwards of sixty fishing sloops belonging to this town, of about fifty tons burden. The copperas works, which were formerly carried on here, have been dropped for some years, and very little copperas is now picked up here; neither are there many lobsters taken on the shore, as formerly. But a number of fishing sloops from hence are employed to fetch lobsters from Norway to London, and other markets, each of them bringing on an average about twelve or fourteen thousand on a single voyage, and most of them making two voyages from hence between February and July. As many, or rather a larger number of vessels, sail every winter from hence to the Dogger bank, and there fish for Dogger cods, which are very large and much esteemed. This fishery, 'till within these five or six years, was not understood by our fishermen; but they are now become so expert therein, that hopes are entertained of establishing the turbot-trade here likewise, which will be a great saving to the nation, as the Dutch carry a great quantity of ready specie from London markets every season, for that kind of fish.

Part of a Roman castra, or camp, still remains at Harwich; and here and there are found mutilated parts of a large stone pavement, which are supposed to be a sufficient proof of its having been a Roman military way; or, in the Saxon stile, a Stane-street. Several coins have been found here; and a tessellated pavement was also discovered, and a wall pulled down about twenty years ago, built entirely of Roman materials.—At a Roman castle called by Camden, Walton, otherwise Felixstow-castle, many fragments of urns, and other antiquities have been dug up. An elephant's tooth was likewise found near the remains of this castle; and it is said that more of them have been found in Harwich cliff, which were probably buried there by the Romans. Dion Cassius says, that elephants were brought into Britain by Claudius, who landed his army in Kent, and crossed the Thames with it into Essex, where he conquered the natives. This happened A. D. 43. So that these teeth are supposed to have lain in the earth 1700 years.

Harwich church is only a chapel of ease to the mother church of Dover-court. It was founded by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk.—Harwich sends two members to parliament.—

Here

A View of Esher Place in Surrey.



St. Oystth Priory, the Seat of the Earl of Rochford.



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Here are two fairs held, one on the feast of St. Philip and St. James, and the other on the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.

Dover-court is a mile distant from Harwich. In this parish grows strong knotted and crooked elms, famous for their several uses in husbandry, which are said to be very durable, and to wear like iron. Here are two fairs held, one on the 1st of May, and another on the 18th of October.

There are three islands south-west of Harwich, called Pewet, Horsey, and Holmes, which however are separated from the main land only by the winding of a stream, and the influx of the sea into that stream. Upon these islands there is found a sea-fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food: south of these islands there are three villages, which are included within a liberty or lordship, antiently called the liberty of the Soke, in which the Sheriff of the county has no power, and in which no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him, without the consent of the lord.

S R. O S Y T H.

This is a parish in Essex, at the distance of twelve miles from Colchester. It derived its name from the lady Osgyth, or Olyth, who was obliged by her father, against her will, to marry Sighere, King of the East Angles. She found means, however, to prevent the marriage being consummated; and, in the absence of her husband, took the veil. He at length consented to her living in a state of celibacy, and gave her a village which was situated at this place, called Chich, or Cice, and permitted her to found here a church, and a nunnery. But Ingua and Hubba, we are told, spoiled the nunnery, and caused her head to be cut off, at a fountain where she used to wash herself with her virgins: she was buried, it is said, before the door of the church erected by herself.

Richard de Beauveis, bishop of London, founded a monastery here about the year 1118, for canons of the order of St. Augustine. The revenues of this monastery were very large, and there were two parks belonging to it. At the dissolution of the monasteries, this place was granted to the famous Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. It afterwards became the property of Lord Darcy, who converted it into a seat for himself. Part of it only is standing, yet it is a noble pile

pile of building, and is now the seat of the Earl of Rochford.

M A L D E N

Is a very antient town in Essex, at the distance of thirty-seven miles from London. It stands on an eminence or side of a hill, south of Blackwater bay. It consists of one wide street, extending from west to east near a mile, which is crossed near the top by another. On the west side of this town are the remains of a camp, through the middle of which is the road to Chelmsford: three sides of the fortifications are visible, being a square or oblong inclosing about twenty-two acres; the rest is built upon and defaced. The bay here makes a convenient harbour for ships, and the merchants carry on a considerable trade in coal, iron, deals, and corn. Malden has sent burgesses to parliament from the 3d year of the reign of Edward III.—The market here is on Saturday, and a fair is held three weeks before Michaelmas, and another on Lady-day, and two days after.

A shopkeeper of this town, whose name was Edward Bright, was rendered famous by his extraordinary bulk and weight. He is mentioned in the Philosophical Transactions, and prints were published of him. Another instance of so vast a size is scarcely to be met with in ancient or in modern history. At the age of twelve years he weighed 144 pounds; at nineteen, he weighed 336 pounds; about thirteen months before he died, his neat weight was 41 stone 10 lb. or 584 pounds; at the time of his death he was manifestly grown bigger since his last weighing, in that proportion by which he had increased on an average, viz. of about two stone a year; so that he was nearly 44 stone, or 616 pounds neat weight. He measured five feet nine inches and an half in height; his body round his chest was five feet six inches, and round the belly six feet eleven inches. His arm in the middle was two feet two inches about, and his leg two feet eight inches. After his death seven men were buttoned in his waistcoat. He died in 1750, aged twenty-nine. He was an active man 'till a year or two before his death, when his corpulency so over-powered his strength, that his life began to be a burden to him. He left a widow big with her sixth child. His coffin was of an enormous size, and they were obliged to cut a way through the wall and staircase, to let his corpse down into the shop. It was drawn upon a carriage

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to the church, and let down into the vault by the help of a slider and pullies.

R O C H F O R D

Is a town in Essex, at the distance of forty miles from London, situated on a small stream that falls into a river called the Crouch. It gives its name to the hundred in which it lies. The market is on Thursday, and here are two fairs annually, one on Easter Tuesday, and the other on the Wednesday after Michaelmas day.—At King's-hill, about half a mile north-east of Rochford church, is held what is called the *Lawless-court*, a whimsical custom, the origin of which is not known. On the Wednesday morning next after Michaelmas-day, the tenants are bound to attend, upon the first cock-crowings, and to kneel and do their homage, without any kind of light but such as the Heavens will afford. The steward of the court calls all such as are bound to appear, with as low a voice as possible, giving no notice when he goes to execute his office; however, he that gives not an answer is deeply amerced. They are all to whisper to each other, nor have they any pen and ink, but supply that deficiency with a coal; and he that owes suit and service, and appears not, forfeits to the lord of the manor double his rent every hour he is absent. A tenant of this manor forfeited, not long ago, his land for non-attendance, but was restored to it, the lord only taking a fine.

At the distance of five miles from Rochford is HADLEY, or HADLEY AD CASTRUM, as it has been stiled ever since the reign of King Henry III. when Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, built a castle here. The ruins still extant, shew its ancient grandeur. It is near a mile south from the church, and about three quarters of a mile from the road, facing the Channel or Canvey-island. As it is situated on the brow of a steep-hill, there is from thence a delightful prospect across the Thames into Kent. It is built of stone almost of an oval form; the entrance is at the north west corner, between two towers, and there are also two towers at the south-east and north-east corners, which are embattled, and have loop holes on the sides; the walls in the bottom of the towers are nine feet thick, and the rest five feet; and on the north and south sides, the walls are strengthened with buttresses. The cement or mortar, which is almost as hard as the stones themselves, hath in it a mixture of shells of sea-fish, &c. At the entrance,

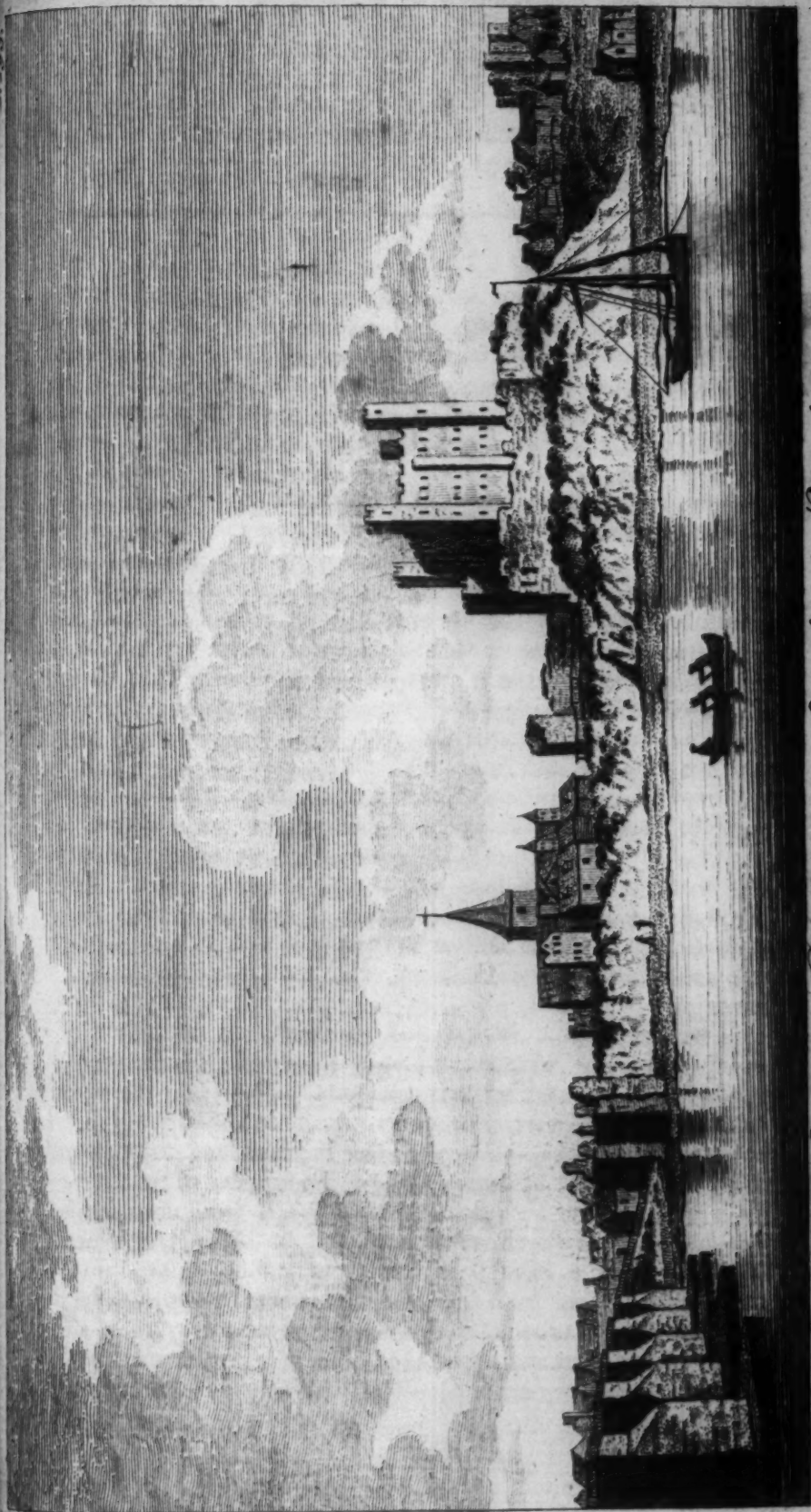
the earth lying very high near the towers, a very deep ditch is cut behind them which runs along the north side of the castle; the ruins are now greatly over-grown with bushes.

R O C H E S T E R.

This is a very antient city, in the county of Kent, at the distance of thirty miles from London. It is situated on an angle of land formed by the current of the river Medway, which coming from the south, runs northward until it has passed by the city; and then, turning, proceeds nearly to the east. This city has sent members to parliament from the earliest times, and is the see of a bishop, and next to Canterbury, the most antient see in England. It is but a small city, though it is supposed to have been walled round before the conquest; and great part of the walls still remain. The town is well supplied with provisions of every kind, and with plenty of fish from the Medway. The buildings are lately much improved, and in several parts of the town are some agreeable residences for small genteel families. On Boley Hill, which is a retired and pleasant situation, is an antient seat, which is now the property of Joseph Brooke, Esq; wherein Queen Elizabeth was entertained in 1573; Part of this house has been new-built by Mr. Brooke. And near to this, on a delightful eminence, is the residence of — Gordon, Esq; from many parts of whose house is a pleasing view of the Medway and the surrounding hills. This gentleman is possessed of a collection of fine paintings, many of them by the first masters in that polite art; particularly two capital drawings of Rubens, viz. the Crucifixion and the Pentecost.

There are three capital and spacious inns in this city, which will vie with most in England, as well for their good accommodations, as for their antiquity. Nearly on the same spot where the Crown now stands, has been an inn distinguished by the same sign upwards of four hundred and fifty years, it having been kept by Simon Potyn, the founder of St. Catharine's hospital, A. D. 1316. It also appears from court rolls, that on the same spots where the Bull and the King's-head now stand, there have been houses of public entertainment distinguished by the same signs for above three hundred years. — In the neighbourhood of this city are several very rural and pleasant walks, particularly on the banks of the Medway.

Rochester



A View of Rochester Castle & Bridge.

Rocheſter caſtle, which is ſuppoſed to have been erected about 700 years, is placed on a ſmall eminence, near the river Medway, juſt above Rocheſter bridge, and conſequently is in the ſouth-weſt angle of the walls of the city. It is nearly of a quadrangular form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the city. It is about three hundred feet ſquare within the walls, which were ſeven feet in thickneſs, and twenty feet high, above the preſent ground, with embraſures. Three ſides of the caſtle were ſurrounded with a deep broad ditch, which is now nearly filled up: on the other ſide runs the Medway. In the angles and ſides of the caſtle were ſeveral ſquare towers, ſome of which are ſtill remaining which were raiſed above the walls, and contained lower and upper apartments, with embraſures on their tops.

But what chiefly attracts the notice of a ſpectator, is the noble tower, which ſtands in the ſouth-eaſt angle of this caſtle, and is ſo lofty as to be ſeen diſtinctly at twenty miles diſtance. It is quadrangular in its form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the caſtle. And from the top of it is a very pleaſing proſpect of the city and adjacent towns, with their public buildings, the dock-yard at Chatham, the meanders of the Medway, and the ſurrounding country.

There is an antient ſtone *Bridge* at Rocheſter, over the Medway, which was erected in the reign of Richard II. Sir Robert Knolles is celebrated for being the founder of this bridge. He was diſtinguiſhed both by his courage and military preferments, being raiſed by degrees from the rank of a common ſoldier to that of a general. He attended Edward III. in his ſucceſſful campaigns in France; and when the King's affairs declined by the ill ſtate of health of Edward the black prince, Sir Robert was ſent over to the continent with an army of thirty thouſand men. He advanced into the heart of France, and extended his conqueſts as far as the gates of Paris. In this, and many other expeditions, he acquired great riches, and returned to his country laden with wealth and honour.

Lambard ſays, Sir Robert built this bridge with “the ſpoils of towns, caſtles, churches, monaſteries and cities, which he burnt and deſtroyed; ſo that the ruins of houſes, &c. were called Knolles's Mitres.”—This bridge, for height and ſtrength, is allowed to be ſuperior to any in England, excepting the bridges at London and Weſtmiſter. It is above five hundred and ſixty feet long, and fourteen feet broad, with

a stone parapet on each side, strongly coped and crowned with an iron balustrade. It has eleven arches, supported by strong and substantial piers, which are well secured on each side with sterlings. The river has a considerable fall through these arches.—At the east end, and fronting the passage over the bridge, a chapel was originally erected by Sir John Cobham, who gave some assistance to Sir Robert Knolles in building the bridge; but a neat stone building has since been erected on the place where the chapel stood, wherein the persons to whom the care of the bridge is entrusted, hold their meetings.

A bishopric was founded at Rochester, in the reign of Ethelbert, King of Kent, soon after Augustine the Monk had landed in the isle of Thanet, and preached at Canterbury. The first church at Rochester was finished in the year 604, but this building having suffered considerably by time and the ravages of foreign enemies, bishop Gundulph rebuilt the cathedral about the year 1080. It consists of a body and two isles, one on each side; its extent, from the west door to the steps ascending to the choir, is fifty yards, and from thence to the east windows at the upper end of the altar fifty-two yards more, in all one hundred and two yards, or three hundred and six feet. At the entrance of the choir is a great cross isle, the length of which, from north to south, is one hundred and twenty-two feet. At the upper end of the choir, between the Bishop's throne and the high altar, is another cross isle, which extends from north to south, ninety feet.

The west front extends eighty-one feet in breadth; the arch of the great door is doubtless the same which Gundulph built; and is a most curious piece of workmanship, every stone being engraved with some device. It must have been very magnificent in its original state, its remaining beauties being sufficient to excite the attention of the curious; it is supported by several columns on each side, two of which are carved into statues representing Gundulph's royal patrons, Henry I. and his Queen Matilda. The capitals of these columns, as well as the whole arch, are cut into the figures of various animals and flowers. The key stone of the arch seems to have been designed to represent St. Andrew, the apostle and tutelar saint of the church, sitting in a niche, with an angel on each side, but the head is broke off: under the figure of St. Andrew, are twelve other figures, supposed to be designed for the twelve apostles, some few of which are perfect:

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perfect: but in general the whole arch is much injured by time.

On each side of the west door is a square tower; that on the north side has lately been rebuilt, and has in the centre niche, on the west front, a very ancient figure, supposed to be the statue of bishop Gundulph.

A priory was founded at Rochester about the year 600. A chapter of secular priests was first placed here, but they were afterwards removed, and Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, already spoken of as the builder of the cathedral, established here sixty black monks.—There are some ruins still remaining of the ancient chapter house, which shew it to have been a building of great elegance, considering the age in which it was erected.—A skeleton was dug up, in December, 1766, by the workmen employed in digging a new cellar for the deanery of Rochester, in an area under the old chapter-house, or secretarium of the priory. This skeleton was full seven feet in length, and the skull very entire, with fine teeth quite firm in the jaws.

The town-hall of Rochester is an handsome brick structure, supported by coupled columns of stone, in the Doric order. At the upper end of the hall are original portraits of King William III. and Queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Here are also portraits of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Sir John Leake, and other persons of note, well executed by eminent masters.—The clock-house, which is a neat building, was erected by Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who represented this city in four parliaments.—This city is governed by a mayor, eleven aldermen, and twelve common-council-men.

Sir Joseph Williamson, who was one of the plenipotentiaries at the treaties of Nimeguen and of Ryswick, and who was one of the representatives for this city, founded a mathematical school here. There is also a grammar-school here, called, the King's School, consisting of twenty scholars on the royal foundation, who have their education free, and each 9s. 4d. per quarter. They wear surplices, and with the choristers, are always obliged to attend divine service at the cathedral. A market is kept in this city on Fridays, and two annual fairs are held here, one on the 30th of May, and the other on the 11th of December.

There is in the river Medway, at Rochester, and in several of its creeks and branches within the jurisdiction of the city, an Oyster-fishery; which is free to every one who has served seven years apprenticeship to any fisherman or dredger, who
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is free of the said fishery; and the Mayor and citizens of Rochester hold a court once a year, or oftner when occasion requires it, for the regulation of this fishery, and to prevent abuses in it.

Rochester, Stroud, and Chatham, though they are three distinct places, yet are so contiguous, as to appear in a manner but one city; and these three towns form a continued street extending above two miles in length. Stroud is separated from Rochester only by the bridge. There is an hospital here for sick and lame soldiers; and an annual fair is held here on the 26th of August.

C H A T H A M

Is a suburb to Rochester, and perhaps the completest naval arsenal in the world. It affords a sight, equally noble and pleasing, to every one who is sensible how much the safety and prosperity of this nation depends on its maritime strength. It has been brought to its present state of perfection by degrees, the dock having been begun by Queen Elizabeth, and continually improved by her successors.—This celebrated dock-yard, including the ordnance wharf, is about a mile in length; it is ranged on the south east side of the river, and is adorned with many elegant buildings, inhabited by the commissioner and principal officers belonging to the yard, which well become the opulence of the nation, and the importance of the navy. Here are many neat and commodious offices for transacting the business of the yard; also spacious storehouses (one of which is six hundred and sixty feet in length) and work rooms, which, by their amplitude, manifest their prodigious contents, and the extensive works carried on within them; the sail loft, in which the sails are made, is two hundred and nine feet in length: in these magazines are deposited amazing quantities of sails, rigging, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, rosin, oil, and every ingredient necessary for the building and equipping of ships; the coils of cordage, and heaps of blocks, with innumerable other articles, are arranged with such order, that on any emergency they may be taken out without the least confusion. To every apartment proper officers and attendants are assigned, for the more expeditious dispatch of business, so that even a first or second rate is often equipped for sea in a few weeks.

The masts are carefully deposited in storehouses peculiarly adapted for them, one of which, in this yard, is two hundred and thirty-six feet in length, and one hundred and

twenty

twenty feet wide; some of these masts are near one hundred and twenty feet long, and thirty-six inches in diameter: there are also two spacious basins of water, in which these masts are kept continually floating. The smith's shop contains twenty-one fires; here the anchors are made, some of which weigh near five tons. In an extensive rope house, which is upwards of seven hundred feet in length, large quantities of hemp are twisted into cables one hundred and twenty fathoms long, and some of them twenty-two inches round. In this yard are four deep and wide docks, for docking and repairing large ships: in one of these docks was built the *Victory*, a first rate, the largest ship in the universe, carrying one hundred and ten guns, which is now moored in this river near Gillingham; there are also four slips and launches, on which new ships are constantly building.

The ordnance wharf is situated to the south of the dock-yard, between Chatham church and the river, and was the original naval yard. The guns belonging to the ships in this river are here deposited in long tiers; some of these guns, weigh sixty-five hundred weight each: large pyramids of shot are to be seen on different parts of this wharf; there are also capacious storehouses, in which are deposited prodigious quantities of offensive weapons, as muskets, pistols, cutlasses, pikes, poleaxes, &c. &c. The armory is a curious assemblage of every kind of hostile weapons, arranged in admirable order. To defend this vast naval magazine, there is a strong garrison at Sheerness, the entrance into the Medway. A fort is also erected at Gillingham. For the further security of this yard, in the beginning of the last war, ramparts were thrown up.

That which is called the Chest at Chatham, was instituted in 1588, the memorable year of the defeat of the Spanish Armada; when with the advice of Sir Francis Drake, Sir John Hawkins, and others, the seamen in the service of Queen Elizabeth voluntarily assigned a portion of each man's pay, to the relief of their wounded fellows; which method being confirmed by the Queen, has been continued ever since. Two annual fairs are held at Chatham, one on the 15th of May, and the other on the 19th of September.

About four miles from Rochester stands the pleasant village of *Shorne*, the church belonging to which has several antient monuments in it, especially of the Cobham family. Near this place

place is Cobham hall, an ancient and noble structure, the original mansion of the Cobham family, but now the residence of the earl of Darnley. In a large room in this house are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, and a memorandum of her having been entertained there by the then proprietor of this seat. here is an extensive park well stocked with deer. In Cobham church are several ancient and curious monuments of the Cobham family. Near the church is a college, founded about the year 1389, by John de Cobham, and suppressed by Henry VIII. But it was founded anew on a reformed plan, by Sir William Brooke (lord Cobham) A. D. 1597. Twenty poor persons with their families are admitted into this college, from the adjacent parishes.

On the other side of the London road, is the parish of *Higham*, where was a nunnery of the Benedictine order. Near this place are the remains of the ancient town of Clive at Hoo, now called Cliff, by many writers supposed to have been the Cloveshoe, where so many councils were held during the Saxon heptarchy. Not far from Cliff is Cooling castle, erected by John, lord Cobham, about 1380; it being granted to him by Richard II. which grant he caused to be cut on a large stone, and placed on the front of the castle; part of it is still visible. This castle was a place of considerable strength, and surrounded by a deep moat. Two round towers which formed the entrance, are still standing, as are some fragments of towers erected for its defence in different parts of the walls. The pious and intrepid Sir John Oldcastle, who in the reign of Henry V. fell a victim to papal cruelty, resided in this castle; part of it is now a farm house, in the occupation of Mr. Comport.

About three miles from Rochester, on the road towards London, is *Gad's Hill*, supposed to have been the scene of the robbery mentioned by Shakespear in his play of Henry IV. At a small distance to the left, appears on an eminence the *Hermitage*, the seat of the late Sir Francis Head, Bart. and close to the road, on a small ascent, is a neat building lately erected by Mr. Day.

M I L T O N.

This is an antient town in Kent, about twelve miles from Rochester, and forty-two from London. It is in a manner situated on the waters of a fine rivulet, at the head of a creek that runs into the Swale, which separates the isle of Shepey from the main. Antiquity has dignified it by calling it,
"Th:

“The royal town of Middleton.” When king Alfred divided his kingdom into hundreds and shires, Milton was in his possession, and therefore was so denominated: it was honoured with a royal palace, which was situated near where the church at present stands, about a mile north-east of the town: It was a flourishing place until the reign of Edward the Confessor; nor do we read of its being injured by the Danes, although it must have been visited by them: in the same reign, A. D. 1053, Earl Godwin, who had been banished, came hither and burnt the palace and town to ashes. Milton church is a large handsome building; there was a church in this place very early, for Sexburga, the foundress of the nunnery at Minster in Shepey, is said to have expired in the church porch of Milton, about the year 680. It contains several ancient monuments of the Norwood family. The town is governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen on St. James’s-day. There is a good oyster fishery in the Swale, belonging to this town: the oysters are much esteemed in London. A market was granted by King Edward I. A. D. 1287, and continues on Saturdays. A fair is held on the 24th of May. Within a mile to the east of the church is a large open field or marsh, called Kelmsley down, derived, it is imagined, from Campsley down, or the place of camps, because there the Danes under Hastings, in 892, encamped on their arrival from France with eighty ships. On the east side of the down are the remains of a castle, said to have been built at that time by those free-booters; it is now called Castle ruff. All that appears of this fortress at present, is a square piece of ground surrounded by a large moat. On the opposite side of Milton creek, and about half a mile north of Sittingborn, are the poor remains of Bayford castle, said to have been raised by the good and vigilant King Alfred, to secure the country from the excursions of the Danes, while they rendezvoused on Kelmsley downs. The moat and a small part of the east wall are still visible.

F E V E R S H A M

Is forty-eight miles from London, and is a town of great antiquity. In a charter of Kenulph, King of Mercia, dated 812. it is called the King’s little town, and seems to have been a royal residence at that time. King Stephen founded an abbey here in 1148, but there are no remains of it, except an inner gate and some walls. The church is large and handsome. Feversham is now in a flourishing state, being

the chief port for this part of the country; it is situated on a rivulet which falls into the mouth of the Swale, and has an oyster fishery. The dredgers have a peculiar law among them, which obliges a person to marry before he can be free of the grounds. The town is an appendage of the town and port of Dover. It is governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty; has a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on the twenty-fifth of February, and the other on the twelfth of August. A large powder manufactory subsisted near this town as early as the time of Queen Elizabeth: it has been lately purchased by government. To the north-west of the town on the other side of the rivulet, is the chapel of Davington, where was an eminent nunnery. It was founded soon after the abbey of Feversham, in the reign of King Stephen, A. D. 1153. The chapel of this ancient religious house is now the parish church. To the south of the town, near the road, is the small, but neat church of Preston, in which are some monuments three hundred years old.

At a little distance from hence, Lord Sondes has an elegant seat, known by the name of LEES COURT. And in this neighbourhood is also NASH COURT, the handsome and pleasant seat of the Hawkins's family, with a balustraded terrace on its top, fronted with a green park, in which are beautiful plantations.—At Boughton-hill, which is between Feversham and Canterbury, there is a beautiful prospect on every side from the summit, and the high steeple of Canterbury cathedral appears directly in the road.

About three miles from hence is the antient village of *Harbledown*, the church of which is situated on an hill west of the street. Opposite to the church is the hospital and chapel, originally built and endowed by archbishop Lanfranc, about the year 1080: it was for the benefit of poor lepers. This was the place that formerly held the precious relick, called St. Thomas Becket's slipper, neatly set in copper and chrystal, mentioned by Erasmus. The numerous pilgrims to the shrine of St. Thomas used to stop here, and kiss his slipper, as a preparation for their more solemn approach to his tomb. Since the reformation, this hospital is continued for the relief of poor persons.

C A N T E R B U R Y.

This famous and antient city, the chief of the county of Kent, and the metropolitan see of all England, stands at the distance

distance of fifty-six miles from London. It is situated in a beautiful and fruitful valley, with the river Stour running through it, in two clear and useful streams. It is supposed to have been walled in the time of King Ethelbert, about the year 600; and when the walls were repaired in 1400, they are said to have been nearly two miles in compass. There were twenty-one small towers on the walls, and seven gates, besides posterns. There are now only six, and a great part of the wall is in a ruinous state. The *castle* is a venerable structure, and was built about the time of the conquest. It is situated on the south side of the city, but is in ruins. Besides the cathedral, there are sixteen parish churches in this city; the whole of which is divided into six wards, which are named after the six city gates. Here were also a priory, a nunnery, and three religious houses for the Augustine, black, and grey friars. The knights templars had a mansion in this city. It likewise contained nine hospitals, three of which are dissolved. Here is a free-school, and three charity schools.

The cathedral, called Christ's Church, is a fine piece of Gothic architecture; it is situated in a spacious square towards the east side of the city, and is built in the form of a cross; about five hundred feet long, seventy-four broad, exclusive of the cross isle, and eighty feet high. From the middle of the building rises a beautiful tower two hundred and thirty-five feet high, called Bell Harry.—There are many antient monuments in this church, some in very good condition; among which are those of Henry IV. and his Queen, built A. D. 1413; and Edward the black prince. There was also a famous monastery belonging to this cathedral, containing, it is said, one hundred and fifty benedictines; the cloysters and chapter house belonging to it, are on the north side of the church, and are of the same age with the body of it. In this chapter room, A. D. 1171, King Henry II. either through piety or policy suffered the monks to scourge him, by way of penance, on account of the murder of Thomas Becket. This monastery was dissolved in 1539; and there are now belonging to this cathedral, a dean, archdeacon, twelve prebendaries, six preachers, six minor canons, twelve lay clerks, ten choristers, two masters, fifty scholars, and twelve alms-men. In the windows of this fabric are some fine remains of painted glass, and underneath it the French and Walloon congregation have a church,

This was first given by Queen Elizabeth to the Walloons, who fled hither from the Netherlands, to escape the Duke of Alva's persecution; and this congregation has since been much encreased, by numbers of Protestants who were driven from France in the reign of Lewis XIV. These foreign Protestants were extremely serviceable to Canterbury, by introducing here the art of weaving broad silks, which has been brought to great perfection.

The ruins of St. Augustine's monastery, or abbey, are without Burgate, to the east of the city. The abbey was built by Ethelbert, and given to Augustine, and richly endowed by the donations of many Kings and Queens. At the west end of the abbey is Ethelbert's tower, which is thought to have been used as a belfry and steeple, and to have been so called from a large bell named from that King. It was built about the year 1047, and is now much decayed. Near the ruins of this abbey, are those of Pancras chapel, which was an idol temple, and probably built by the Romans, or soon after their time, from the Roman bricks still to be seen. Augustine consecrated it for christian worship. This abbey and chapel with its precincts, occupied a large compass of ground, which is surrounded by a high wall, the two grand entrances into which are still remaining. To the east of this monastery is St. Martin's church, famous for its antiquity, it being built by the believing Romans, and rebuilt and used by Bertha, Ethelbert's Queen, for christian worship, before Augustine came into England; and was the first place that missionary said mass in, after his arrival. Bertha is said to have been buried in the porch with her husband Ethelbert. There are rows of Roman bricks yet to be seen in it: it had a bishop before the conquest.

This city was formerly governed by the archbishop; the King had a præfect, who possessed but very little authority. It is now governed by a mayor, recorder, a sheriff, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common-council-men. A court is held every Monday in the guildhall, for civil and criminal causes, and every other Thursday for the government of the city. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair for toys on the 29th of September.

I S L E O F T H A N E T.

This is in the north-east part of the county of Kent, and lies open to the sea on the north and east, with the river Wantsum

Wantsam on the west and south. It is about nine miles long, and eight broad, and in general very fertile. The small village of Sarre is the first place a traveller comes to in this island: this was formerly a large town, endowed with the privileges of the cinque ports, and still belongs to Sandwich; the passage into this island is at this place, over a narrow stream. To the left of the road, and six miles from Margate, is the church of St. Nicholas, which is a handsome building, but there are no monuments in it prior to the year 1500. About the same distance from Margate, to the right of the road, is the small town of Monkton or Monkton, so called from its being the property of the monks, who usually resided in this place. There are collegiate stalls in the church, and the heads of several priors in the remains of painted glass in the windows. The church has been larger than it now is. Birchington is a member of the town and port of Dover. The church is a neat building, and contains several ancient and modern monuments of the Queke and Crispe families, who resided at the ancient mansion in this parish, called Quekes or Quex. At this house King William III. used to reside, until the winds favoured his embarking for Holland. A room, said to have been the bedchamber of this royal guest, is still shewn, together with an adjacent enclosure in which his guards encamped. On the right hand, near the marshes, about four miles from Margate, is the ancient but small town of Minster. Domneva, daughter of Ercombert, King of Kent, built and founded an abbey at this place, about the year 670, and furnished it with veiled virgins to the number of seventy; herself becoming the first abbess: Mildred, her daughter, succeeded her: and so far excelled her mother in piety, that she was canonized a saint, and the nunnery ever after was called by her name. It was destroyed by the Danes about the year 990. Minster church, which is the most ancient in the island, is a handsome structure, consisting of three isles: it has eighteen collegiate stalls in the choir. On the floor, and in the church porch, are several large flat grave-stones which are very ancient. In the last century a pot of Roman silver coins was plough'd up near Minster; the coins were chiefly of Lucius Aurelius Verus. Between Minster and Margate is Cleve-court, an elegant building belonging to I. Farrer, Esq. Beyond Minster are some downs, which are much celebrated for affording extensive and delightful prospects. Canterbury cathedral, the isle of Shepey, the Essex shore, Dover cliffs, and the town of Sandwich, may be each distinctly

distinctly discerned from this pleasant spot. From these downs (as the monks inform us) started Domneva's deer, which ran in an irregular course, quite across the island, in the ancient maps of which this tract is marked. King Egbert gave Domneva so much ground as the deer would run over at one course; which cut off the east end of the island, where she built her nunnery. This tract, from the name of her daughter, was called St. Mildred's Lynch, and was a bank of earth thrown up describing the ancient bounds of the two great manors of Monkton and Minster; and is yet visible in some places.

East Kent, and the isle of Thanet, have long been reckoned the best cultivated part of England, and this tract of country has no slight pretensions to that character. The drill husbandry is very general here, and is carried on in a very complete and judicious manner. The culture of hops throughout East Kent, is a very important branch of husbandry; and madder is here cultivated by farmers more than in any other part of the kingdom.

M A R G A T E

Is situated on the north-side of the isle of Thanet, within a small bay, in a breach of the cliff, where is a gate to the sea, from whence it has its name: it is seventy-two miles from London, and about sixteen from Canterbury. In summer it is a pleasant and agreeable situation. Its principal street runs north and south near a mile in length, and terminates at the pier, with a gentle descent, by which means the streets are always neat and clean. But what has given Margate so great an eclat in the beau monde, is its convenience for bathing: the shore being level and of fine sand, is extremely well adapted to this purpose. On the wharf are several bathing rooms, where the company resort to drink the water, and from whence they enter into the machines, which are afterwards drove out two or three hundred yards into the sea, under the conduct of careful guides. There is a door in the machine, which being opened, they descend into the water, by means of a ladder; an umbrella of canvas is let down which conceals them from public view.

Since Margate has been so much frequented by the nobility and gentry, many considerable additions and improvements have been made to the town. A large new square has been lately erected, consisting of very convenient houses
for

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for the accommodation of the nobility and gentry who resort to this place; the square is paved after the same manner as the streets in London: in the square is a noble and commodious assembly room, finished with great elegance and taste; and being eighty-seven feet in length, and forty-three in breadth, is supposed to be the largest in England, and commands a delightful prospect of the sea. Adjoining to this are very convenient apartments for cards and tea: on the lower floor is a billiard table, and a large room for public entertainments, with a piazza which extends the whole length of the building: in the upper floor are ranges of bedchambers. The number of subscribers to these rooms have amounted to near a thousand in a season. The amusements are conducted with great regularity by Mr. Walker, master of the ceremonies, who has the happiness to give general satisfaction. In the square is an elegant tavern, now kept by Rumsey, which communicates with the room for public entertainment.

Besides the tavern in this square, there is another called the New Inn, situated on the parade; where are two hot salt-water baths, which are said to have a very salutary effect. There is also a playhouse here. Provisions are very plentiful, and great quantities of fish are daily caught. In short, here is every requisite to render this place a genteel and delightful summer residence.

Two machines set out for Canterbury every morning, to meet the coaches from London, and return to Margate the same evening. The hoys sail from Wool-key near the Custom-house, London, on Wednesdays or Thursdays, and with a west-north-west wind, sail to Margate in twelve hours; but when it is unfavourable, may be three days in their passage. They go from Margate on Fridays or Saturdays; the fare is half a crown. They bring great quantities of goods from London, for the town and country. As a proof of the safety of this passage; there has not been a hoy lost for upwards of one hundred and forty years.

This town is under the same jurisdiction as the port of Dover, the mayor being represented here by a deputy. Its church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which was the ancient name of the parish. It was formerly a chapel to Minster church, and supposed to have been built about the year 1050, and made parochial since the year 1290. It contains several ancient monuments.

At

At a little distance from Margate, is a seat built by Lord Holland, in imitation of an Italian villa, with a noble portico fronting the sea. It contains several elegant apartments, with a variety of marble columns, busts, vases, &c. brought from Italy. His lordship has also erected with chalk stones several buildings resembling Gothic towers, convents, &c. in ruins, and planted ivy round them to increase the deception. Near this seat are Hackendown banks, or the field of battle axes, being the place where a fierce battle was fought in the year 854, between the Danes and Anglo-Saxons, which conflict was so near the cliff, that many fell into the sea; and some historians say, that both commanders were slain, and the victory doubtful. Here are two barrows or hills of earth, thought to have been the tombs of certain great officers killed in that battle. These barrows were lately opened, and found to contain bodies bent together and thrust into graves dug out of the chalk, a little below the surface, but not above three feet long. Several earthen urns, containing about two or three quarts, were also found, in which were ashes and charcoal, but they would not bear the air. Lord Holland has erected a monument, with an inscription in the style of antiquity, to perpetuate this action.

About half a mile to the south of King's gate, is the north Foreland lighthouse, for the direction of ships by night, to secure them from the Goodwin sands, and this head land. It was formerly built of wood, but being burnt down, the present strong flint octagon was erected about the beginning of this century; at its top is an iron grate, on which a large coal fire blazes all night: for the support of this light, the owner of every ship belonging to Great Britain, that sails by this Foreland, pays two-pence per ton, and every foreigner four-pence.

S A N D W I C H

Is one of the Cinque Ports, and is at the distance of eight miles from Margate, and sixty-seven from London. The walls of the town, which were made by throwing up the earth, are nearly in the form of a parallelogram, and are about five furlongs in length from east to west, and two and a half from north to south; at the foot of which is a wet ditch of considerable breadth. They command a pleasant and extensive view of the adjacent country. In these walls are several semicircular projections which overlook the ditches, there

there were also some pieces of ordnance, which being quite unserviceable, have been lately removed. The river and quays are on the north side of the town. There are several gates belonging to it, some of which are in a ruinous condition.

It appears from the remains of fortifications about this town, that it was anciently a place of great strength; and, before the use of cannon, was capable of enduring a vigorous siege. Sandwich has been esteemed the most famous of all the ports in England; and is thought, by many respectable authors, to have been the landing place generally used by the Romans, and inhabitants of the ancient city *Rutupiæ*.

In Sandwich are three parish churches, St. Clement's, St. Mary's, and St. Peter's. There was formerly a fourth in the south-west part of this town, dedicated to St. James, but there are no remains of it at present. The church-yard is still inclosed, and is used for the interment of strangers. St. Clement's church is in the east part of the town, and situated upon higher ground than the rest. It is a large and ancient structure, and much resembles the Norman style of architecture; particularly the tower, which is considerably older than the rest of the building.

There is a good bridge here, which was erected in 1757. It is built with stone, having an arch on each side, and a passage between for the larger vessels, that use this port. The middle arch is of wood, divided into two parts, which are easily drawn up or let down. The passage over the stone part of the bridge is secured by a parapet wall on each side, and the wooden arch by Chinese rails. It is a work of considerable utility, not only to the inhabitants of Sandwich and the isle of Thanet, but to the eastern part of the county of Kent, and to the public in general.

The streets of Sandwich are narrow and irregular; but there are some good houses, and an handsome square called the fish-market, which consists principally of shops. Here is also another square called the corn-market; and near the west-side of this is the Town hall, which is a very antient structure.—Sandwich claims jurisdiction over Deal, Ramsgate, Fordwich, Sarre, and Brightlingsea in Essex, which are members of this cinque port. It used to furnish five ships compleat for service. This town was anciently incorporated by the name of the barons of the town and port of Sandwich; but at present is incorporated by the name of the mayor, ju-

rats, and commonalty. It sends two members to parliament, who still retain the ancient name of barons of the cinque port of Sandwich. The freemen of the cinque ports have the privilege of sending a certain number of their own members to support the royal canopy at a coronation. Besides the mayor, there are twelve jurats and twenty-four common-council men, a town-clerk, two treasurers, and other inferior officers.—The trade of this town chiefly consists in coals, fir, timber, deals, &c. with which the country is supplied. Here also are shipped corn, malt, fruit, and seeds, for London and other markets. The seeds raised from this soil are in much repute.

Sandwich is for the most part supplied with water from a narrow stream called the Delph, which runs through it. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 4th of December, which continues two days. The shrimps which are caught near this town are remarkably excellent. There are several good inns in Sandwich, and many wealthy inhabitants. Here is also a large and elegant assembly room, which has been built within these few years. Since the construction of the bridge, and the resort to Margate as a bathing-place, the town has been more frequently visited by strangers; a tour from thence to Sandwich, Deal, Dover, &c. being a pleasant and agreeable excursion.

Between Sandwich and Deal is a large tract of land called the Dowas, part of which is level, and part mountainous. Here are those remarkable eminences which, Mr. Cambden says, were in his time called Rome's work; now they are known by the name of Sand Hills; commencing near Sandown Castle, and stretching toward Sandwich, along the sea shore. The surface is in general a fine white sand, or thin covering of heath. On this coast it is generally supposed that Cæsar landed in both his expeditions to Britain. Sandown Castle is a regular fortification, erected on the shore within a mile of Deal. There is another to the south of the town, called Deal Castle, and beyond that is Walmer Castle: they were built on this coast by Henry VIII. to secure it from the hostile intentions of his enemies. They are kept in good repair, and are under the government of the lord warden of the cinque ports.

About a mile from Sandwich, at a small distance from the road which leads to Dover, is the village of Wodensborough; the church contains memorials of the Paramour and Heyre families.

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milies. Near the church is a remarkable eminence, supposed to have been raised by the Saxons as a pedestal for their idol Woden, which stood upon it, and from which the place derives its name.

In the parish of *Waldershire*, which is six miles and an half from Sandwich, the Earl of Guildford has a very elegant and pleasant seat. To the west of the house is erected a high Belvidere, which commands a beautiful and extensive view of the country. Opposite to Lord Guildford's seat, half a mile to the left of the road, are the remains of *West Langdon Abbey*.

D E A L

This town is about five miles south-west of Sandwich, and seventy-two from London. It is divided into upper and lower Deal; the former is the most ancient, the latter having had its existence from the increase of trade. The trade of the inhabitants chiefly consists in supplying the ships which rendezvous in the Downs. This town is a member of the port of Sandwich, and is governed by a mayor, and jurats subordinate to that town. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and two fairs annually on the 5th of April, and 10th of October.

D O V E R

Is at the distance of seventy-one miles from London, and is situated on the sea-shore, in the narrowest part of the channel that divides England from France; the cliffs of Calais, on the French coast, being only thirty miles distant. It is a very agreeable sea-port, the situation being very romantic, at the foot of several bold hills; and the harbour in the center of the town, quite built round, is surrounded by quays, that are very pleasing to the view. From the castle, and the hills near the town on the road to Hythe, are noble views down on the town, the harbour, and the shipping; and over the channel, the high lands in France are distinctly seen.

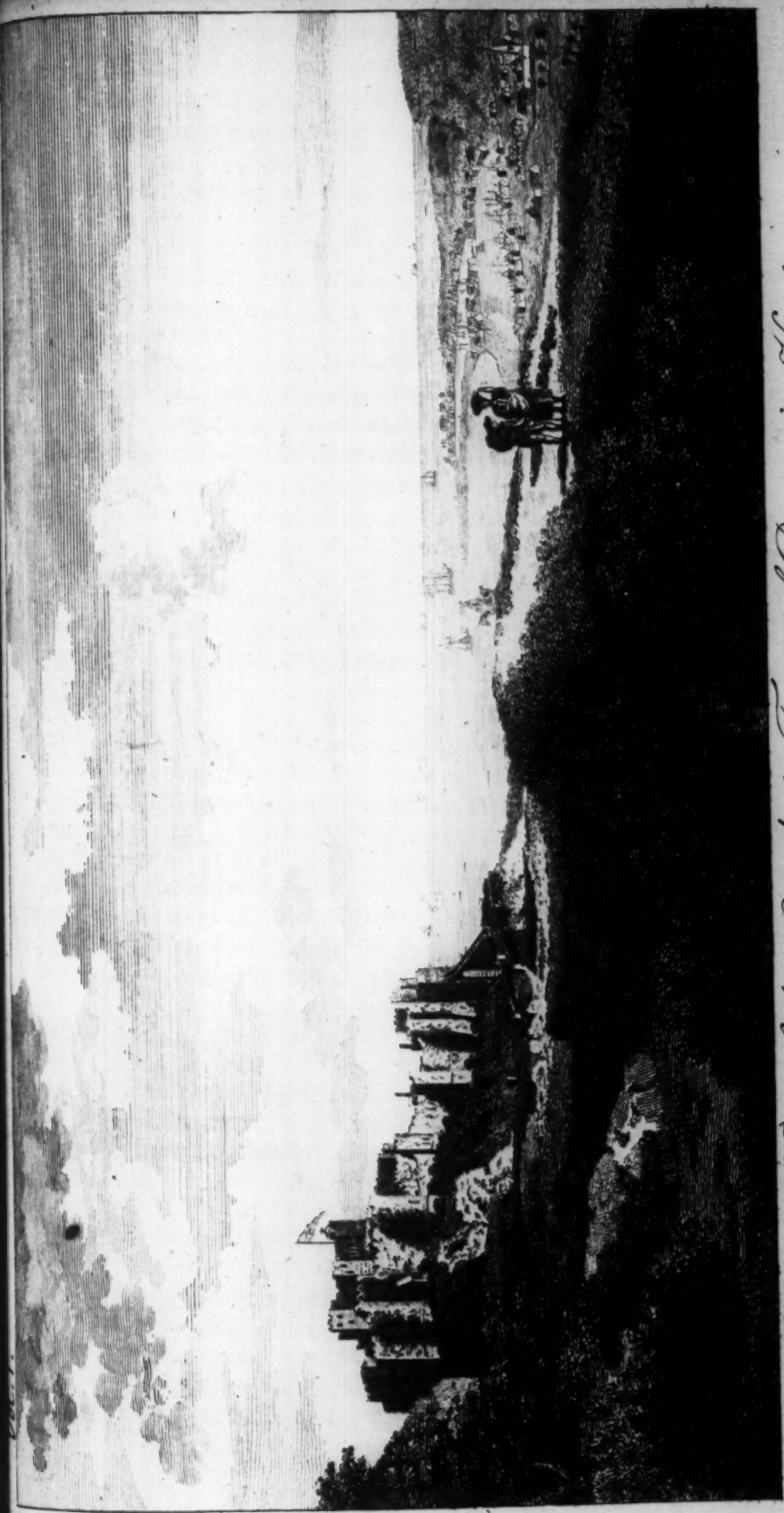
Dover is a place of great antiquity, and was undoubtedly one of the Roman ports in this country. It was a town of great repute in the time of Edward the Confessor, when it was the principal of the cinque ports. It was formerly walled in, having ten or eleven gates; and the walls are said to have been built by the Emperor Severus; but there

are now but small remains either of the walls or gates. There were also formerly seven churches in Dover, but there are now only two.

Dover Castle is built on the extremity of the stupendous cliffs which form the eastern barrier to Dover town and harbour, and is so large as to contain thirty-five acres of ground. There has been a fortification on this spot ever since the Romans possessed this island, and it was of great repute among the Saxon Kings: it was thought a very important object by William the Norman; and through a course of ages succeeding Kings built new towers, and increased its natural strength to such a degree, that in Henry III's time it was called the key and barrier of the whole realm. This castle contains a curious specimen of ancient fortification, and is well worthy of attention. St. Martin's le Grand is said to have been situated here, for the service of the royal palace, which was in the castle; here is a tower at the west end, which with the church bears evident marks of great antiquity. The bells which were in it were removed to Portsmouth by Sir George Rock. There is a well in this castle three hundred and sixty feet deep, lined to the bottom with free-stone. In the castle they shew two very old keys, and a brass trumpet, said to have been used in the time of Julius Cæsar. Here is a brass gun, supposed to be the longest in the world, it was presented to Queen Elizabeth by the States of Utrecht: it carries a ball of fifteen pounds weight, is twenty-two feet long, and is said to throw a ball seven miles. It is commonly called Queen Elizabeth's pocket pistol.

Dover is incorporated by the name of the mayor, jurats, and commonalty of the town and port of Dover, and sends two members to parliament: it has received many favours from different princes, one of which was the privilege of a licensed packet-boat to France; on account of the narrowness of the channel, it is become the general place of embarkation for that kingdom, and arrival from thence. In the reign of Richard II. the fare from France for a single passenger, in summer time, was settled at six pence, and a shilling in winter. A market is kept here on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 22d of November.

As Dover is one of the *cinque ports*, it may not be improper here to observe, that this phrase is derived from *quinque portus*, *five havens*, that lie over against France, and were thus called by way of eminence, on account of their superior importance. Our Kings have thought them worthy
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A View of the Castle & Town of Dover in Kent.

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a particular regard; and the better to secure them against invasions, have granted them a peculiar form of government. They are governed by a keeper, who has the title of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. They had a particular jurisdiction granted them by King John, and several other privileges which have been confirmed by most of his successors. Their warden, who was first appointed by William the Conqueror, has the authority of an admiral among them, and issues out writs in his own name. The five original cinque ports, are Dover, Rumney, and Sandwich, in Kent; and Winchelsea and Rye, market-towns of Suffex; and to these five original ports, there were afterwards added Hastings and Seaford, two other market-towns of Suffex; and Hithe in Kent. When the service which was required of the cinque ports towards their preservation became too burdensome, each was allowed a certain number of other towns in its neighbourhood, as auxiliaries, that they might bear a part in this public charge. The cinque ports claim the honour of supporting the canopy, which at a coronation is borne over the Sovereign, and afterwards to dine at the uppermost table on the King's right hand: the canopy, staves, &c. are their fee. Thirty-two barons or inhabitants of the ports used to be summoned for this purpose, whose expences were borne by the ports; but at present they usually depute their members of parliament to that office.

Near Dover-Castle there is a head of land, called *South Foreland*, by way of distinction from another head or promontory, which forms the north-east point of the Kentish shore, and is therefore called *North Foreland*. These two points, lying at the distance of six miles from each other, are the two most easterly in Kent; the coast between them is sheltered by them on the south and north, and by a bank of sand, running parallel to the shore for three leagues together, and at the distance of a league and an half from it, called Godwin Sands, on the east. Thus the South Foreland, North Foreland, Godwin Sands, and the Coast, form a tolerable good road for ships, which is called *the Downs*, and which would otherwise be very dangerous, for the Godwin sands, which are dry at low water, break all the force of the sea on the east, south, and south-west; yet when the wind blows excessive hard at south-east, east-by-north, and east-north-east, ships are driven from their anchors, and forced

forced ashore on the Godwin sands, or sent into Sandwich bay, or Ramsgate pier, near Sandwich.

North Foreland is a point declared by act of parliament to be the most southern part of the port of London, which by the same act is extended north in a right line, forming the mouth of the Thames, to the point called the Naze, on the east of Essex. All the towns or harbours between London and these places, whether on the Kentish or Essex shore, are called members of the port of London. As soon as vessels have passed the North Foreland, out of the port of London, or any of its members, they are said to be in the open sea; if to the North they enter the German Ocean; if to the south, the British Channel.

B A R H A M D O W N S,

Which are about sixty-two miles from London, are celebrated at present for the annual horse races which are there exhibited. Several villages, and elegant gentlemen's seats are situated on the right and left of the downs; on the right is an eminence, on the left a beautiful vale, in which runs a small branch of the river Stour. On the right is *Denbill House* and gardens, the seat of Lady Gray; near which is *Netherfole House*, the mansion of ——— Winchester, Esq; which is situated in the small village of Wymplingwold. To the left of the downs, is the village of Barham, which gives name to this delightful spot. The church has in it some monument of the Diggs family, who resided at *Diggs-Court* in this parish.

On Barham Downs is a scite of an ancient camp, with three ditches round it, which some conjecture to be the work of Julius Cæsar, on his second expedition to this island. About the year 1212 King John encamped here with an army of sixty thousand men, to oppose the French, who threatened him with an invasion. Simon Montford, Earl of Leicester, also drew up a large army on these downs, in the reign of Henry III.

Near Beakesborne, which is about sixty miles from London, Sir Thomas Pym Hales, member of parliament for the port of Dover, has a fine seat, known by the name of *Howlets*.

F O L K E S T O N E

Is situated between Dover and Hythe, and is a member of the cinque port of Dover. It is seventy-one miles from London,

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London, and appears to have been a very antient place, from the Roman coins and other antiquities which have been found in it. Here was formerly a nunnery; but so near the coast, that it was often pillaged by the Danes, and at last swallowed up by the sea. However, after the conquest, a priory was founded here. Here is a charity-school for twenty boys, nominated by the mayor and jurats, who, with the commonalty, constitute the corporation. A copious spring runs through the town; but it is chiefly noted for the multitude of fishing boats that belong to its harbour, which are employed at the proper season in catching mackrell for London. And about Michaelmas the Folkstone barks, with others from the Essex shore, sail away to the coasts of Suffolk and Norfolk, to catch herrings.

In going from Dover to Folkstone, the traveller meets with six or seven very romantic miles: the road runs along the edge of vast precipices, the shore very high and bold, and nobly varied. From the hill, going down into Folkstone, the view is extremely fine: you look down on a fine sweep of inclosures, many of them grass, of the most pleasing verdure. The town, with its church on a point of land close to the sea. The edge of the lower grounds describe as beautiful an outline as can be imagined: the union of sea and land compleat. As you descend the hill, the prospect extends to the right: the vale opens, and spreads to the view a fine range of inclosures, bounded to the land by many hills, rising in a great variety of forms: the whole scenery is very magnificent.

H I T H E

Is situated in the south-east part of the county of Kent, and is sixty nine miles from London. It is a cinque port and corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats and commonalty. This town had antiently five parish churches, though now it has only one. Here are two hospitals, and a charity-school for thirty-eight boys.

A remarkable pile of dry bones has been preserved in this town, and kept in a vault under the church, consisting of several thousand heads, arms, legs, thigh bones, &c. some of which are very gigantic, and appear by an inscription to be the remains of the Danes and Britons killed in a battle near this place, before the Norman Conquest.

R U M.

R U M N E Y

Is often called *New Rumney*, to distinguish it from an inconsiderable town within a mile and a half of it, called *Old Rumney*. *New Rumney* is seventy miles from London, and is one of the cinque ports, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The town stands on a high gravelly hill, in the middle of *Rumney Marsh*. —*Old Rumney* was once a large town, containing twelve wards, and five churches; and had a safe and commodious haven, when the sea came so close to it, that ships used to anchor in one of the church-yards; but the sea deserted it in the reign of King Edward I. and it has now but one church. It is said, that by a storm which happened here in 1334, above 300 windmills and houses were carried away; which, together with the withdrawing of the sea, so impoverished the place, that it could never recover it.

Rumney Marsh is the richest tract of grazing land in this part of the kingdom. It contains between 40,000 and 50,000 acres of fruitful land, on which vast flocks of sheep, and herds of black cattle, are fattened, which are sent hither from other parts, and sold in the London markets. The sheep are reckoned rather larger than those of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire; and their bullocks the largest in England, especially those they call stalled oxen, from being kept all the latter season within the farmer's yards, or sheds, where they are fed for the winter season. This Marsh is the place from whence a set of smugglers, called *Owlers*, from their going out in the dusk of the evening, have for many ages exported our wool to France. It is supposed to have been once covered by the sea; and, as it is very unwholesome, is but thinly inhabited.

T E N T E R D E N

Is an antient town in Kent, at the distance of fifty-eight miles from London. It is governed by a mayor and jurats. The beacon of the church here is remarkably lofty, and is proverbially said to have been the cause of some dangerous sands in the channel, called *Godwin Sands*, of which we lately made mention. These sands were a tract of ground near the isle of Thanet, belonging to Godwin, Earl of Kent, which lying low, were defended from the sea by a great wall, that required a constant care to uphold it. This tract was afterwards given to St. Austin's monastery.

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nastery, near Canterbury; and the abbot neglecting the wall, while he was taken up in building Tenterden steeple, the sea broke in and overflowed the ground, leaving the sands upon it. At the time of the alarm of the Spanish invasion, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a beacon was placed upon Tenterden steeple.

C R A N B R O O K

Is situated in a woody part of the county of Kent, and is the place where the first woollen manufacture in the kingdom was erected, by those Flemings who were encouraged to settle here by King Edward III. in order to teach the art to his subjects; and excellent cloths used to be made here formerly; but that trade has long since decayed, and this is now only an inconsiderable place.

T U N B R I D G E.

This is a market town, at the distance of thirty miles from London, situated upon the river Medway, which here branches out into many little streams, over all which there are bridges: from thence it derives its name, which is compounded of *Ton*, the Saxon word for Town, and *Br.dge*. It consists of one broad street, adorned by some very good modern houses. Here is a good free-school, which was erected and endowed about two hundred years ago, by Sir Andrew Judd, Lord-mayor of London, who vested the care of it in the skinners company. It is kept in excellent repair, and is at present in a very flourishing condition. There is nothing remarkable in the church, which is a neat modern building. Here is a market on Fridays, and fairs held on Ash-Wednesday, the 5th of July, and the 29th of October.

At the further end of the town, on the right hand, as you come from London, the noble ruins of an old castle strike you with awe and veneration. It was built by Richard de Clare, on a piece of ground which was given him by Langfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for as much land in Normandy, the measurement being on both sides made with thongs of raw hides. It stands upon an eminence close upon the banks of the Medway, and has been very strong, and was antiently a place of considerable importance. Edward I. was nobly feasted here in the second year of his reign, by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford. In the reign of Edward IV. this castle was

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in the possession of Henry, Duke of Buckingham; but in the reign of Henry VIII. both the town and castle were forfeited to the crown by the attainder of Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham; and the latter has not been in the least repaired since that time. Queen Elizabeth gave it to her kinsman, Henry, Lord Hunsdon; from whose heirs it passed into private hands.

Five miles from the town of Tunbridge, at the very edge of the county, are *Spelhurst Wells*, more commonly called *Tunbridge Wells*, which are much frequented on account of their mineral waters. These wells are at the bottom of the walks, which are handsomely paved: on one side is the assembly room, the coffee-rooms, the booksellers shops, jewellers and milliners shops, and shops for china, and for Tunbridge-ware, which is made here to great perfection out of holly, cherry-tree, and sycamore; of which a great quantity grows hereabouts. On the other side of the walks are coffee-rooms, another assembly room, and taverns, and lodging-houses. The music gallery is in the middle of the walks, which are beautifully shaded with trees: a piazza extends from the upper end to the bottom, quite down to the wells. The houses and lodgings are very neat and commodious; most of them on the hills contiguous, called Mount Sion, Mount Ephraim, and Mount Pleasant. Here is a decent chapel, which was built by subscription, and where divine service is performed every day: the Clergyman is paid by public contribution for his attendance. Here is also a dissenting meeting-house.

The high rocks are about a mile from the walks, of which there are a vast number adjoining to each other, and several of them are seventy or eighty feet high; and at many places there are cliffs and cavities, that lead through them by narrow dark passages; and their being situated among the woods, by a little winding brook, makes them afford a most retired and delightful scene.

P E N S H U R S T

Is three miles south-west of Tunbridge, and was the ancient seat of the noble family of Sidney, but at present of William Perry, Esq. Penshurst was forfeited to the crown by the attainder of one of the Vane family, who followed the fortune of the unhappy Somerset in the reign of Edward VI. That monarch bestowed it upon the father of Sir Henry

Henry Sidney, in whose arms he expired. This fact is mentioned in an inscription over the gate of the Tower, through which you pass into the court-yard, which is a very large ancient quadrangle of hewn stone, and was fortified in old times, being reckoned a place of no small strength. Here are many more rooms than are shewn to strangers: those that are open, are well furnished, and contain good pictures, tables, pillars, and vases of fine marble brought lately from Italy, well worth the inspection of the curious. The house lies very low, and close to a mean village, of great antiquity, of the same name. A powerful family, called Penshurst, or Pencheſter, was settled here in the time of the Conqueror, which has been long extinct. The park, which was formerly very considerable, is at present but small, being inclosed and divided into farms.

The famous Sir Philip Sidney was born here; and it was here the celebrated Waller wrote many of his best pieces, under the auspices of Lady Dorothy Sidney, whom he has immortalized by the name of Saccharissa. This Lady was daughter to Sidney, Earl of Leicester, to whom Penshurst then belonged; and wife to Henry, Lord Spencer, created Earl of Sunderland by King Charles the First, in whose defence he was slain, gallantly fighting at Newbury.

Not far from Penshurst is a noble structure, mouldering into ruins, called *Somerhill*, which stands very high, and has a most extensive command of country. It anciently belonged to the Earls of Hertford and Gloucester. Somerhill being forfeited to the crown by Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, was given by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Francis Walsingham, with whose daughter it passed into the hands of three great families; for she was married to three different husbands. Her first was the renowned Sir Philip Sidney; her second, the unfortunate Earl of Essex; and her third, Ulick de Burgh, Marquis of Clanrickard, Earl of St. Alban's, Viscount Tunbridge, and Baron Somerhill, one of the most remarkable and accomplished Noblemen of King Charles the First's reign. Charles II. who used to come sometimes to Tunbridge, kept his retinue at Somerhill,

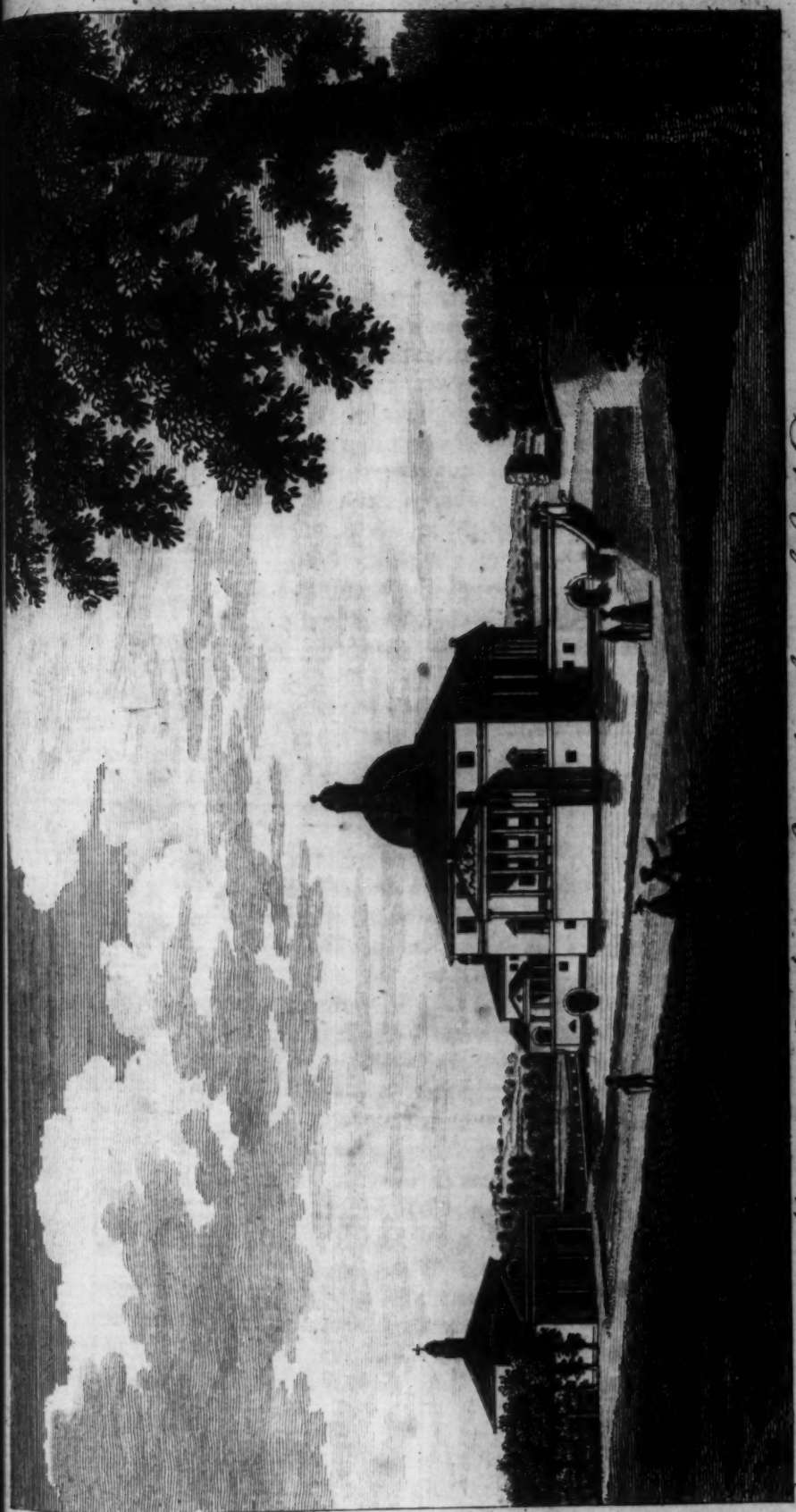
M A I D S T O N E

Is situated on the river Medway, and is thirty-six miles from London. In the time of the Britons it was their third chief city, it was also a station of the Romans, and has been a considerable town in all ages since. It is a large, pleasant, and populous place; and is a corporation, governed by a mayor and commonalty. The chief trade of Maidstone is in thread, which is made here in great perfection, and in hops, of which there are vast plantations, besides orchards of fine cherries. From this town, and the adjacent country, London is said to be supplied with more necessities of life, than from any other market-town in England, particularly with large bullocks, timber, wheat, hops, and apples. The county courts are held in this town, and generally the assizes. Here is a fine stone bridge over the Medway, erected by one of the archbishops of Canterbury. At this place the river Len falls into the Medway, and the tide flows quite up to the town, and carries barges of sixty tons.—The weekly market on Thursday is reckoned the best frequented of any in the county, and is toll-free for hops. There are four annual fairs here, viz. on the 13th of February, the 12th of May, the 20th of June, and the 17th of October.

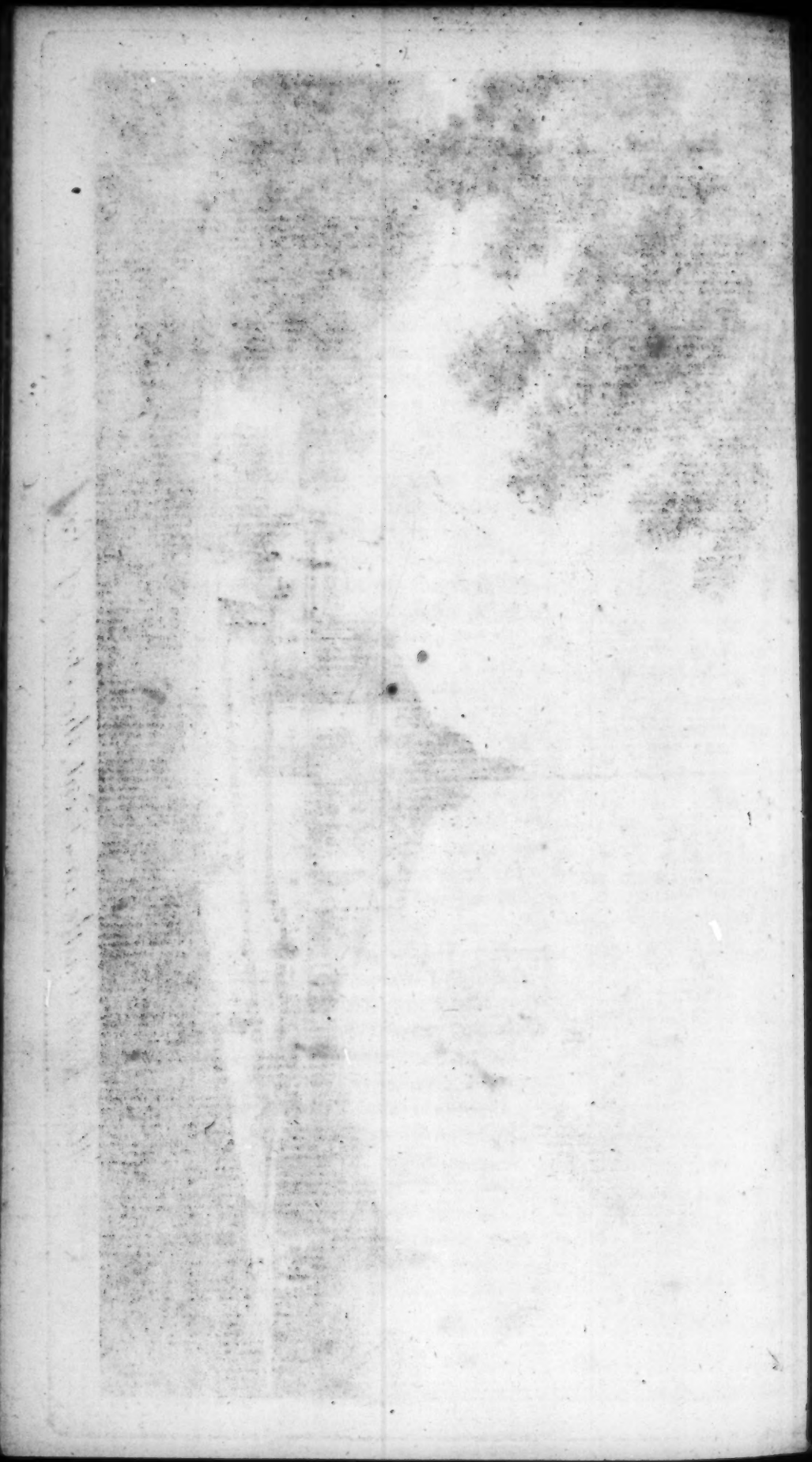
West Malling is a market-town of great antiquity, thirty miles from London, and where there was formerly a nunnery of the Benedictine order; but it is now an inconsiderable place.

M E R E W O R T H C A S T L E.

This fine Seat is situated two miles south-east of Malling; it was formerly the seat of the Earl of Westmoreland, but is now in the possession of Lord Despenfer. It is esteemed a very fine piece of architecture, and was designed by Colin Campbell, in imitation of a palace in Italy, built by the famous Palladio. It is a square extending eighty-eight feet, and has four portico's of the Ionic order. In the middle there rises above the roof a semicircular dome, which has two shells; the one forms the stucco-cielling of the saloon, being thirty-six feet diameter; the outward shell is carpentry covered with lead. Between these two shells is a strong brick arch, that brings twenty-four funnels to the lantern,



Mereforth Castle in Kent, the Seat of Lord Despensers.



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lantern, which is finished with copper; but by this contrivance there is occasioned an inconvenience; the chimnies often smoke.

S E V E N O K E.

This town, which is twenty-four miles from London, in the road to Tunbridge, is said to have derived its name from seven very large and high oaks which stood near it, when it was first built, but which have been long since cut down. Here is an hospital for maintaining poor old people, and a school for educating poor children, which were built and endowed by Sir William Sevenoke, who was lord-mayor of London in 1418, and who is said to have been a foundling, brought up by some person of this town, from whence he took his name. John Potkyn, who lived in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, was a great benefactor to the school; and the revenues being augmented by Queen Elizabeth, it was from thence called Queen Elizabeth's free-school. It was re-built in 1727.

At *Knowle*, in the neighbourhood of Sevenoke, the Duke of Dorset has a fine seat, the park and gardens belonging to which are laid out in a very elegant manner.

E A S T G R I N S T E A D.

This is a town in Suffex, thirty miles from London, and which is so called to distinguish it from a small place of the same name in the county, called West Grinstead. It is an antient borough by prescription, and has sent members to parliament from the time of Edward II. The town is but small, though it is the place where the county assizes have been frequently held. There is an hospital here, which was built in the reign of King James I. by Robert Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who endowed it with 330*l.* a year, for the maintenance of thirty-one poor persons of this town. The weekly market is on Thursday, and there are two fairs held here, one on the 13th of July, and the other on the 11th of December.

Between East Grinstead and Lewes, near Newick, Mr. Holyroyd has a very pleasing seat, known by the name of SHEFFIELD PLACE, and which is situated in one of the most agreeable parts of the county of Suffex. The park is fine,
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forming varied lawns well wooded, shelving into winding vales, and commanding very noble sweeps of richly cultivated country. One vale takes an irregular course through the park and grounds; and the boundaries of which are well contrasted. In some places thick woods of oak hang to the bottom; in others copses, inclosures, and scattered trees; in one spot the hills rise in a bold manner, intermixed with rocks and pendent woods. A small river takes its course through the vale, which is formed into two lakes, one of them at the foot of the romantic ground abovementioned; the other partly environed by a large wood, which on one side is thick to the very water's edge; but on the other the underwood against the water is cleared away, and the land converted to lawn, but the trees left in it, which forms a most agreeable retired scene, backed by the thick wood. The lawn breaks away among the woods, and rises to the house, which stands on higher ground. This winding vale, so rich in wood, water, and hanging sides of hills, is seen to great advantage from a seat in the park, from whence the view is truly picturesque. Near the house is a wood of sixty acres, full of very fine timber, and cut into agreeable walks, one of which, that winds by the side of the river in a sequestered part of the valley, is very beautiful.

L E W E S.

This town is fifty miles from London, and is a place of great antiquity, as appears from King Athelstan's having appointed his royal mint to be kept here. It is a pleasant place, situated in an open country, on the edge of the South Downs, and is one of the largest and most populous towns in the county of Sussex. The assizes are often held here. Though it is a borough town by prescription, and sends two members to parliament, it is not under the direction of a corporation; but is governed by two constables, who are assisted by the principal inhabitants of the town. The town is large, and has six parish churches in it, and contains many handsome houses; and there are two large suburbs adjoining to it; one called South-over, on the west-side of the town; and the other called Cliff, from its situation on a chalky hill, on the east-side of the river Ouse. There are many gentlemen of fortune who reside in this town, and its neighbourhood.

There are several iron works in Lewes, particularly a foundery

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foundry for cannon. There are several dissenting meetings here; and a charity-school for boys, supported by voluntary subscription. In the neighbourhood of this town horses-races are often held.

B A T T L E.

This is a town in Suffex, fifty-six miles from London, which derives its name from the battle in which William the Norman defeated King Harold, and obtained the crown of England. This battle was fought in a field called Heathfield, near this town: Heathfield is also near Hastings, and this battle is therefore sometimes called the battle of Hastings. On the spot where the body of the brave Harold was found, the Conqueror erected a stately abbey in memory of that event; to which was given the name of *Battle-Abbey*; and he placed in it a number of Benedictine monks, to pray for the souls of the slain. Not long after, several houses were erected round it, and it at length became a town.

Some of the remains of this abbey are yet standing, but the town has gradually fallen to decay from the time of the reformation. The parish church is a low Gothic structure. The trade of the town consists principally in making gunpowder, and that made here is esteemed the best in England. The weekly market is on Thursday, and there is a fair held here on Whit-Monday, and another on the 22d of November.

About eight miles south-west of Battle, are the remains of an antient castle, called *Hurstmonceaux*, which was a place of great repute at the time of the Norman conquest.

R Y E.

This town is sixty-four miles from London, and is an appendage to the cinque port of Hastings. It is a peninsula, washed on the west and south by the sea, and on the east by the river Rother. The town stands on the side of a hill, and has a delightful prospect of the sea. In the reign of King Edward the Third, Rye was walled and fortified by William D'Ypres, earl of Kent; and there is a tower yet standing, which bears his name, and is used for the town goal. Here is one of the largest parish churches in England, an handsome Gothic structure; and there is a free grammar school here, founded and endowed on a very benevolent

nevolent and extensive plan; for it is open for the reception of every child in the town who chuses to go to it. This place formerly had one of the most considerable harbours between Portsmouth and Dover; but for a considerable time it has been so choaked up with sand, that the smallest vessel could scarcely enter it; and a considerable part of the harbour, gained from the sea, was turned into arable land. Some endeavours have since been used to make it again a commodious harbour; and an act of parliament was passed to promote that design in 1762. There is a market here on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on Whit-Monday, and another on the 10th of August.

W I N C H E L S E A

Is three miles from Rye, and sixty-seven from London. This town was built in the reign of King Edward the First, when an older town of the same name, two or three miles to the south-east, which is said to have been very large, was swallowed up by the sea in a tempest. The town enjoys the privileges of a cinque port, sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor and three jurats. It is, however, a very inconsiderable place; for it was not long after it was built, before it was deserted by the sea, after which it lost all its trade. There now remains little more than the skeleton of a town; for the ground where most of the streets were formerly, is now turned into corn fields, or pasture grounds; and of three parish churches, there remains only the chancel of one, which is used for divine service. There is a fair held here on the 14th of May.

H A S T I N G S

This town is sixty-three miles from London, and is supposed to have derived its name from one *Hasting*, a Danish pirate, who generally built a small fort wherever he landed to pillage, in order to cover his men, and secure his retreat. This is the chief of the cinque ports, and is governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The town lies between two high cliffs, one on the sea, and another on the land-side. Great quantities of fish are taken upon this coast, and sent to London. It is a populous place, and contains two parish churches. The weekly markets are on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and there are three annual fairs here,

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here, namely, on Whit-Tuesday, the 26th of July, and the 23d of October.

At *Ashburnham*, which is eight miles from Hastings, the Earl of Ashburnham has a fine seat.

At *Pevensey*, which is south-west of Hastings, are the remains of a castle, which was built by William the Conqueror, and which appears to have been a very venerable structure.

Beachy head is a famous promontory, near Pevensey, and is reckoned the highest cliff of all the south-coast of England; for it projects over the beach to a greater perpendicular height, than the monument in London. Many ships have been lost here in stormy weather, and in the rock are many caverns formed by the violence of the waves. As this is reckoned the highest beach on the south coast of this island, and is divided into seven points or cliffs, it is well known to our mariners, who call it the Seven Cliffs.

Seaforth is a small fishing town, near Beachy-head. It is a place of considerable antiquity, and enjoys the privileges of a sea-port.

Newhaven is a small, but populous town, in the neighbourhood of Seaforth. It has a convenient, though little harbour, and some vessels are built here; and the trade of the place is not inconsiderable.

B R I G H T H E L M S T O N E.

This town is fifty-eight miles from London, and is a place of some antiquity; but it is at present chiefly celebrated for the concourse of nobility and gentry who visit it, during the summer season, for the benefit of bathing in the sea. The town is pleasantly situated on a rising ground, near the sea, and the air is esteemed healthy. Before the civil wars in the last century, this was esteemed the greatest fishing-town in the county of Sussex; but it has declined in that branch of trade ever since, its chief dependence now being on the number of persons who resort here for the purpose of bathing; though indeed many come here rather because it is considered as a genteel place of dissipation, than from any desire of benefiting their health by bathing in the sea.

The town is divided into several small streets, between which there are lanes, wherein the poorer sort of people reside. The town-hall stands near the sea, and under it is a

prison for felons, and a warehouse in which the stores are kept, they having a small battery for guns, although they are not mounted but in time of war. The parish-church stands at a little distance from the town, and there are meeting-houses for dissenters and quakers. The countess of Huntingdon has also erected a chapel here at her own expence. There is a free-grammar school here, and two charity-schools.

There is every necessary accommodation and convenience provided, for those who come here for the purpose of bathing; and a person is appointed to act as master of the ceremonies, in the same manner as at Bath, and who regulates the public meetings and diversions. There is a weekly market on Thursday, well supplied with all sorts of provisions; and there are two fairs held here, one on Holy Thursday, and the other on the 4th of September.

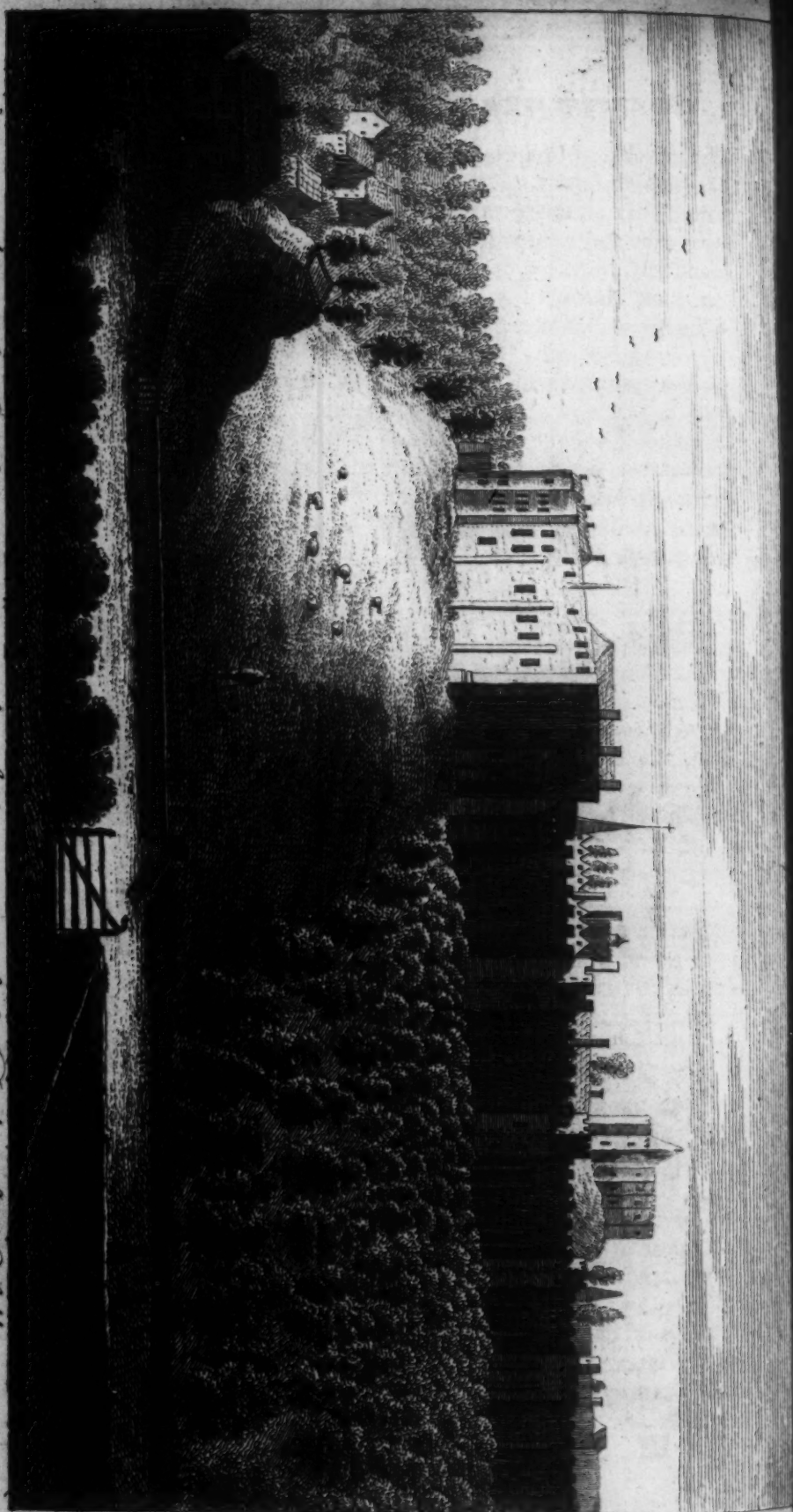
On the west-side of Brighthelmstone, a great number of human bones have been found, from whence it is concluded that a battle was fought here. Many are of opinion that Cæsar, in one of his expeditions into Britain, landed at this place. In the neighbourhood of this town an urn was dug up some years ago, containing a thousand silver denarii, and some of all the emperors, from Antoninus Pius to Philip; and the altars of the Druids have no where been met with in greater numbers than about Brighthelmstone.

N E W S H O R E H A M

Is nine miles from Brighthelmstone, and fifty-eight from London. It took its rise from the decay of *Old Shoreham*, now a small village north-west of it. Though most of this town has been washed away by the sea, it is still a large populous place. The parish church is a noble Gothic structure. The harbour here is but indifferent, though ships of considerable burthen can come into it. Many artificers are constantly employed here, in building small vessels for the coasting trade. There is a fair here on the 25th of July.

Bramber, which is not far distant from New Shoreham, was formerly a place of considerable repute, but is now fallen to decay. *Findon* is a village between Bramber and Arundel; and from this place, round by Houghton-bridge, along the edge of the Downs, towards Arundel, are very noble views over the wild. At one spot in particular, where the road leads very near a precipice, the slope of the hill is so steep,

Shundel Castle in Suwace, one of the Seats of the Duke of Norfolk.



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steep, that a boy could not crawl it, and so high, that the immense country open to you, is seen below in such a manner, that almost every enclosure is distinct, in a vale ten miles long by three broad. A bold wave of the hill to the right and left, forms a dell at your feet at the foot of the down; a thick clump of wood fills it, and forms a romantic scene. The wave of the hill to the left is finely fringed with wood; groves that skirt the fields break from it, and diversify the view: a farm with stacks, and a large water, under the shade of a noble wood, form a complete picture: other woods, spreading about the vale, are broken by innumerable inclosures, of which you have an admirable view. To the right, the down hills bear away one beyond another, forming very striking projections. The whole is a scene extremely magnificent.

A R U N D E L

Is so called from its situation in a dale, or valley, upon the bank of the river Arun. It is fifty-six miles from London, and is a borough by prescription, having sent members to parliament from the thirteenth year of King Edward the First, and is so antient as to be mentioned in King Alfred's will. It is governed under a charter of Queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, twelve burgesses, a steward, and under officers. The mayor is invested with considerable powers, and no writ can be executed within the borough without his permission.

This town is pleasantly situated on the side of a hill, and has an antient castle, said to be a mile in compass, and to have been built in the time of the Saxons. William the Conqueror conferred this castle on Roger de Montgomery, who repaired it, and was created Earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury; but he took his title from Arundel Castle, where he resided; and his successors long enjoyed it as a local dignity, together with the castle: but the title being disputed, it was declared by act of parliament in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, that all persons who had been, or should be possessed of the castle and honour of Arundel, were, and should be, Earls of the same, without any other creation; and the title, manor, and castle, still continue inseparable. Arundel Castle is in a better condition than might be expected from its age, and is now one of the seats of the Duke of Norfolk, who enjoys the title of Earl of Arundel.

Arundel church is a venerable Gothic structure, and was formerly collegiate.—There is a good wooden bridge here

over the river.—Four fairs are held here yearly, viz. on the 14th of May for cattle, on the 21st of August for hogs, on the 25th of September for sheep, and on the 17th of December for pedlary wares.

C H I C H E S T E R.

This City, which is sixty-three miles from London, is supposed to derive its name from the Saxon words *Cissan-ceaster*, which signifies the City of Cissa; and it was thus called from Cissa, the second king of the South-Saxons, who rebuilt it after it had been destroyed by some Saxon and Norwegian pirates, and made it the royal residence, and the capital of his kingdom. This city has been the see of a bishop, ever since the time of William the Conqueror. It is a county of itself, and is governed under a charter of King James the Second, by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, and common-council.

Chichester is surrounded by the river Lavant on every side but the north, and is a neat compact city, inclosed by a stone wall, with four gates, answering to the four points, east, west, north, and south. From each of these gates there is a street, which is denominated from its gate, and terminates in the market-place, which is the center of the city, and is adorned with a stone piazza. In the middle is a stately cross, erected by Bishop Story, about the beginning of the sixteenth century. The streets in general are broad, and the houses uniform and well built.

There is a cathedral in Chichester, and five parish churches. The cathedral is a neat, though small building, and is adorned with a spire, much admired for its strength and curious workmanship. There is an episcopal palace here, which was rebuilt some years ago, but it is rather large than elegant. This edifice, with the cathedral, and houses of the prebendaries, takes up all that quarter of the city between the west and south gates. The market-house is a handsome structure, and over it is a large room, in which the gentry have balls and public assemblies.

Much of the trade of this city consists in making of malt; and here is also a considerable manufactory of needles. The river is not deep enough near the city to make a good harbour; but here is some foreign trade; and a collector, with other officers of the customs, at Dell Key, a small harbour, about four miles from the sea, where vessels come in at high water, and go out with wheat, flour, timber, and coals,
for



A View of the City of Chichester in Sussex.

for London and other ports.—There are five annual fairs here; viz. on the 3d of May, Whit-Monday, the 5th of August, the 10th of October, and 20th of the same month.

In the year 1723, a stone was dug up at Chichester, with an inscription, which, though somewhat defaced, plainly intimated, that it was the foundation stone of a temple erected here in the reign of the emperor Claudius, and dedicated to Neptune and Minerva. In this city there have been also found, at different times, a great number of Roman coins. And when the episcopal palace was re-built, the workmen dug up several antient coins; and in the garden was discovered a curious piece of Roman pavement.

On the west side of Chichester is a large Roman camp, called the Brill. It is an oblong square, being about half a mile in length, and a quarter of a mile in breadth. It lies in a flat low ground, with a great rampart and a single graff, and is generally thought to have been the first camp of the emperor Vespasian, after his landing in Britain. Not far from Chichester, on the same side, is another camp, called Gons-hill, which is also supposed to have been thrown up by the Romans, it being likewise an oblong square.—On a hill north of the city, called Rook's Hill, or Roche's Hill, is an antient camp of an orbicular form, something more than a quarter of a mile in diameter, supposed to have been thrown up by the Danes.

At a little distance from Chichester, the Duke of Richmond has a fine seat, known by the name of Goodwood. It formerly belonged to the noble family of Piercy; but being purchased by the late Duke of Richmond, he pulled down the antient Gothic structure, and erected a fine mansion, according to a plan drawn by Mr. Campbell, author of the *Vitruvius Britannicus*. It is a most excellent structure, and the prospect from it is extremely delightful.

Near Goodwood was an antient castle, now converted into a dwelling-house, surrounded by fine gardens, from the windows of which there are some admirable views. And near it is a small delightful village, called Boxgrove, where a monastery was founded in the reign of King Henry I. for monks of the Benedictine order. The church which belonged to this monastery is now used by the inhabitants of the parish for divine service.

About

About five miles from Chichester, is STANSTED PARK, a fine seat which belonged to the late Earl of Hallifax; who left it by will to his natural daughter. It is a most agreeable place; and from the dining room windows there is a complete prospect of the Isle of Wight, together with a view of the royal navy in Portsmouth harbour, St. Helen's, and Spithead. The gardens are delightful, and the walks in the park extremely rural.

At *Bosham*, a village south-west of Chichester, now chiefly inhabited by fishermen, a monastery was founded before the year 681. And the parish church here is a stately Gothic edifice, which was built at the sole expence of William Warelwast, Bishop of Exeter, in the reign of Henry I. It was made collegiate for a dean and prebendaries; and the stalls for the prebendaries are yet standing, over which are carvings of very antient workmanship. The daughter of Canute the Great was buried here, and there is in the church an antient monument, said to be in memory of that prince.

M I D H U R S T.

This town is fifty-two miles distant from London, and is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff, chosen annually by a jury at the court-leet. It has sent members to parliament ever since the year 1311, the fourth of King Edward II. and is a pretty large town, pleasantly situated on a hill, surrounded with several other hills. There is a fair held here on Lady-day.

Lord Viscount Montacute has a very handsome seat at COWDRY, near Midhurst. It is one of the most agreeable places in the county of Sussex. The situation is in a beautiful valley, and the late Lord Montacute was at great expence in adorning the house, and making improvements in the park and gardens. The wars of Henry VIII. are painted on different parts of the rooms by Hans Holbein; and here are portraits of several noble persons of this antient family by the same artist. The new improvements in this seat are executed in the Gothic taste; so that the house, although modern, has all the appearance of antiquity.

There are several agreeable villages in the neighbourhood of Midhurst, particularly *Charlton*, where the country gentlemen have houses to keep their dogs and horses for the chace;

chace; and, amongst others, there is one belonging to the Duke of Richmond, executed on a design of the Earl of Burlington.

P E T W O R T H

Is forty-nine miles from London, and is a large, populous, handsome town, situated on a fine dry ascent, in a healthy air. The church here is but an indifferent structure, though the rectory is the richest in the county, being said to be worth seven hundred pounds a year. There is a fair held at this place for black cattle on Holy Thursday, and another for sheep and hogs on the 20th of November.

The Earl of Egremont has a noble seat here, which formerly belonged to Algernon, Duke of Somerset. The front is of free-stone, and adorned on the top with statues: the great stairs and apartments are magnificent; the offices are very commodious, and there is one vault near 400 feet in length. This seat originally belonged to the noble family of Piercy, and there is a sword in the armoury here, which is said to have been the weapon of the famous Henry Hotspur, Lord Piercy, who was killed in the battle of Shrewsbury, fighting against King Henry IV.

H O R S H A M.

This town derives its names from Horfa, brother of Hengist the Saxon, who is supposed to have had his residence here. It is thirty-seven miles from London, and is a borough by prescription, governed by two bailiffs, chosen yearly at the court-leet. The county-assizes are sometimes held here; and here is the county goal. This is one of the largest towns in Sussex, and has a fine church, a large venerable Gothic structure, and a well-endowed free-school. The country around Horsham is well cultivated, and there is a quarry of excellent free stone in the neighbourhood. The weekly market on Saturday is well supplied with provisions, particularly poultry, of which the greatest part is bought up by the dealers in London. There are three fairs held here, viz. on the Monday before Whitsunday, on the 18th of July, and the 27th of November.—On the north-east of Horsham is the forest of St. Leonard, where the neighbouring gentry enjoy the diversion of hunting.

H A S L E.

H A S L E M E R E.

This is a borough-town in the county of Surrey, at the distance of forty-four miles from London. It is pleasantly situated on the borders of Suffex, and is a place of considerable antiquity; but is now greatly decayed. It is governed by a bailiff, and is said to have had seven parish-churches formerly, though it has now no more than one chapel of ease to Chidingfold, a village about two miles to the east of it. There is a fair held here on the first of May, and another on the 25th of September.

G O D A L M I N

Is an ancient town situated on the river Wey, thirty-four miles from London, and ten from Haslemere. It is said to have derived its name from Goda, a Saxon lady, who was the foundress of a religious house. It is a flourishing place, particularly for the manufactory of woollen cloth, and worsted stockings, of which last great quantities are made here. It is said, that in 1739, the small-pox carried off above 500 persons here in three months, which was more than a third of the inhabitants. There are several paper-mills in this town, which have continued here ever since the reign of King James I. There is a fair held here on the 13th of February, and another on the 10th of July.

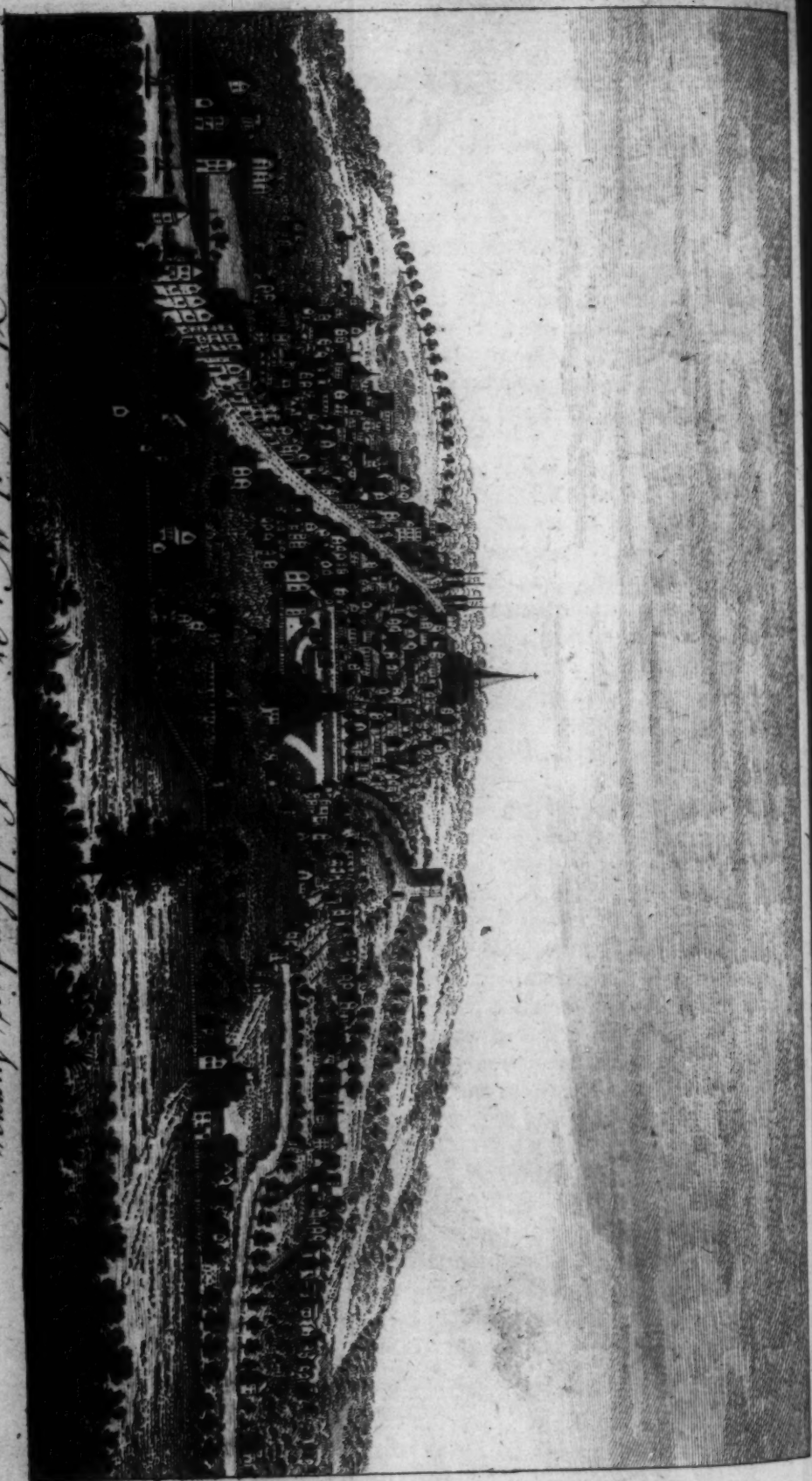
F A R N H A M

Is supposed to have derived its name from the plant called *Fern*, with which this place formerly abounded. It is forty miles from London, and was given by Ethelbald, King of the West Saxons, to the see of Winchester; the Bishops of which see have generally resided here in the summer, ever since the reign of King Stephen, in a castle built by that King's brother, who was then Bishop of Winchester. This castle was a magnificent structure, with deep moats, strong walls, and towers at proper distances, and a fine park; but 'tis much decayed.

This is a large and populous town, and here is one of the greatest wheat-markets in England: a great quantity of hops, said to be as good as any in the kingdom, is produced in the neighbourhood of this place. This town sent members to parliament in the reign of Edward II. but never since.

G U I L.

The South West View of Guildford in Surrey.



G U I L F O R D.

This town is situated on the river Wey, at the distance of thirty miles from London. In the time of the Saxons, as well as afterwards, it was a royal villa, where many of our Kings used to pass the festivals; and in particular King Henry II. King John and King Edward III. kept their Christmas here. This town is governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, sixteen bailiffs, and other officers. The assizes for the county are held often here, and always the election of knights of the shire. The town is large, handsome, and well built; and has always been famous for good inns, and excellent accommodations for travellers. There were three churches in this town, but one of them, being an antient building, fell down in April 1740. Here is a free-school, founded by King Edward the Sixth, and an handsome alms-house, called Trinity-hospital, founded by George Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury, and endowed by him with lands worth 300l. a year, for the maintenance of a master, twelve brethren, and eight sisters. It consists of a handsome quadrangle, built of brick, with a tower and four turrets over the gate. It has a chapel, in which are two windows well painted. Here also are two charity-schools, one for thirty boys, and the other for twenty girls.

In the neighbourhood of Guilford, there is a fine circular course for horse-races, which begin when the Newmarket races end; and King William III. left a plate of 100 guineas to be run for here every May. On the south-side of this town there is a chalky hill, called St. Catharine's hill, from which there is an exceeding fine prospect to the north and north-west; and on this hill stands a gallows, which is in such a position, as to be seen from all the shop-doors in the High-street of Guilford, so that the inhabitants can see the executions there without going from home.—At a little distance from Guilford is *Clandon-Park*, a fine seat belonging to Lord Onslow; and at *Horsley* is a seat of Lord Bingley's.

O C K L E Y, OR O A K L Y.

This is a village in Surrey, which is said to have derived its name from the vast number of oak trees, growing in the neighbourhood. There was a castle here formerly, which was besieged by the Danes in the reign of King Ethelwolf, and the moat which surrounded it is still to be seen near the church. The church-yard here is remarkable for rose-bushes planted

at the head of several graves, in conformity to an antient custom observed here among lovers; for if either of any two lovers dies before marriage, the survivor plants a rose-tree at the head of the deceased's grave; and some are at the expence of keeping up such trees for many years. This practice is supposed to have been derived from the antient Greeks and Romans, who, according to Anacreon and Ovid, imagined that roses, planted or strewed upon the graves of the dead, perfumed and protected their ashes.

D A R K I N G.

This is a market-town in Surrey, twenty-four miles from London, pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Mole. It is a place of considerable antiquity, and is built on a soft rock of sandy stone; and the cellars under the houses being cut out of the same materials, are extremely cold even in Summer. Some of our most eminent physicians have esteemed the air at this place the most healthy in England; and many of the citizens of London have country seats in and near the town. The streets are broad, open, well paved, and kept extremely clean; so that the whole has a very agreeable appearance. This town is famous for its great corn trade, and vast quantities of corn, poultry, and other necessaries of life, are sold here for the use of the London markets; and the town is well supplied with butcher's meat, fresh water fish from the Mole, and sea-fish from the coast of Suffex.—At the entrance of the town is *Sbrub-hill*, the seat of Lord Cathcart.

Box-hill, in this neighbourhood, had its name from its being planted for the most part with box trees, cut out into a great number of arbours, and formed into Labyrinths. This hill, from whence there is a most enchanting prospect, is much the resort of gentry from all parts of the county.

About five miles from Darking is the village of *Wotton*; and in opening the ground in the church-yard here, to enlarge the vault of the Evelyn family, in the reign of King Charles the Second, a human skeleton was found, which measured nine feet three inches in length.—Not far from *Wotton* is *Leith-hill*, which is celebrated for its extent, and the uncommon fineness of its prospect. It consists of one continued, and almost imperceptible ascent from *Wotton*, for near three miles to the South; and from the summit sinks, on the south side, with a gentle declivity of about eight miles, as far as *Horsham* in Suffex. This is by much the highest hill

hill in the county of Surrey, and from the top of it may be seen, in a clear day, all Surrey and Sussex, parts of Hampshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Essex, and Kent; and by the help of a telescope, some part of Wiltshire; so that the whole circumference of the view is thought to be near 260 miles.

RYEGATE

This town is twenty-three miles from London, situated in the vale of Holmisdale, and is surrounded with hills. It is an antient borough by prescription, and is governed by a bailiff, chosen annually at the manor-court. Here is a handsome church, built of free stone, a charity-school, and a market-house, which was formerly a chapel, dedicated to Thomas a Becket; and here are some inconsiderable remains of a very antient castle.—There is a fair held here on Whit Monday, and another on the 14th of September.

In the reign of King Henry III. William Warren, Earl of Surrey, founded a priory of Black Canons, at the bottom of a hill, adjoining to Ryegate, which is now converted into a dwelling-house, and a few years ago was the residence of the late alderman Parsons.

On the south-side of Ryegate is a fine park full of little groves; and under this there is a wonderful vault of arched work, made of free stone, and hollowed with great labour.

WOKING is a small market-town, twenty-eight miles from London, which was once a considerable place, but is now much decayed. Two miles to the north by east of Woking is PURFORD, or PYRFORD, a village, in which is a fine seat which belonged to the late Denzil Onslow, Esq. It is situated near the banks of the Wey, and is rendered extremely pleasant by the beautiful intermixture of wood and water, in the park, gardens, and adjoining grounds. By the park is a decoy, the first of the kind in this part of England.

Four miles to the east of Woking is OCKHAM, the seat of Lord King, whose park extends to the great road. This was purchased by Sir Peter King, afterwards Lord Chancellor. The house was greatly repaired and beautified by the late Lord, and the present Lord King has made great improvements in the park and gardens.—The inhabitants of this village have a tradition, that at Ockham Court was formerly a nunnery, and that a subterraneous passage went from it to Newark abbey, (which stood in the neighbouring parish of

Send) by which there was a communication between the monks and nuns.

B A G S H O T.

This is a village in Surrey, twenty-seven miles from London, in the great Western road, and chiefly remarkable for its affording good accommodations for travellers. At a little distance is *Bagshot Park*, a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Albemarle. *Bagshot-heath* is a large barren tract of country, but appears to be capable of great improvement.

M A I D E N H E A D.

This is a market-town in Berkshire, at the distance of twenty-eight miles from London. It stands in two parishes, Cookham and Bray, and was first raised out of obscurity by a bridge, which about three centuries ago was built over the Thames at this place, and brought hither the great north-west road, which used to cross the Thames at a place called Babham end, about two miles to the north, where there was a ferry. After this bridge was built, Maidenhead began to be accommodated with inns, and the town is now pretty large, and tolerably well built. The bridge is maintained by the corporation, for which they are allowed the tolls both over and under it; and the crown gives three trees a year out of Windsor forest towards repairing it. The barge pier divides Berkshire from Buckinghamshire. There is a great trade here in malt, meal, and timber, which are carried in barges to London. Here is a goal both for debtors and felons, a chapel dedicated to St. Andrew the apostle and St. Mary Magdalen, but no church, and an alms-house, consisting of dwellings for eight poor men and their wives; each man has six pounds a year, and every second year each person has a new gown. It was endowed by James Smith, citizen and falter of London, and his wife, about 1589, and the Salters company of London are trustees.

The village of *Bray* is about a mile from Maidenhead, and is very famous, both on account of its antiquity, and a former vicar, who was twice a Papist, and twice a Protestant, in the reigns of Henry VIII. Edward VI. and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth.

R E A D.

R E A D I N G.

This town is supposed to derive its name from *Redin*, the British word for Fern, which is said to have grown here in great abundance. It is thirty-nine miles from London, is the county-town, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgesses. It contains three parish churches, and the streets of this town are well built, and it is more spacious and populous than many cities. It is partly encompassed by the Thames, which just by it receives the river Kennet, that passes under seven bridges in the town and neighbourhood, and abounds with pike, eel, dace, and fine trout. It had antiently a castle, of which the Danes are said to have been in possession, when they drew a ditch between the Kennet and the Thames; and they retreated hither, after they had been routed, at a little distance from hence, by the Saxon King Ethelwolf; but in 872, they quitted it to the Saxons, who plundered and destroyed the town, which they repeated in 1006. But it recovered itself, and is said to have been a borough in the reign of William the Conqueror. Its castle afterwards having been a refuge for King Stephen's party, was demolished by King Henry II.

A magnificent abbey of flint-stone was founded here by King Henry I. which is said to have equalled most of the abbeys in England for its structure and wealth; and its abbots sat in the house of lords. It was suppressed soon after the Reformation; but the gate-house is still pretty entire, and there are some remains of its walls eight feet thick.

Reading has a considerable trade into the country, but its chief traffic is with London; whither it sends malt, meat, and timber, and receives back coals, salt, tobacco, grocery wares, and other commodities. The largest barges come up to the town-bridge, where there are commodious wharfs for clearing and loading them. The Kennet, which runs through the town, will bear a barge of more than an hundred tons, and is navigable almost to Newbury.—This town sends two members to parliament; and there are four annual fairs held here; viz. on the 1st of February, the 25th of July, the 21st of September, and the 6th of November.

As some peasants were digging some years ago, on a rising ground, not far from Reading, they discovered a stratum of oyster-shells, lying on a bed of green sand, and covered with a stratum of bluish clay. Many of the shells when they are
taken

taken up, have both the valves lying together, and when the upper and under shell or valve are found separate, it appears, upon comparing and joining them, that they originally belonged to each other. This stratum has been found to extend through five or six acres of ground.

N E W B U R Y.

This town is fifty-six miles from London, and is pleasantly situated on the river Kennet, which runs through the town; the streets are spacious, and the market-place, in which there is a guild-hall, is large. This town is supposed to have risen out of the ruins of the antient *Spinæ*, a town mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary: for there is a little village within less than a mile, that is still called *Spene*, which the inhabitants of Newbury own to be the mother-place; and part of Newbury itself is called Spenham Land.

This town has been very famous for the manufacture of broad cloth, but that trade is now much on the decline here. So much broad cloth was made here formerly, that in the reign of Henry VIII. here flourished John Winscomb, commonly called Jack of Newbury, one of the greatest clothiers that ever was in England. He kept an hundred looms in his house; and in the expedition to Flodden-field against the Scots, he marched thither in defence of his country at the head of an hundred of his own men, all clothed and armed at his own expence. He behaved in that engagement with distinguished bravery; and afterwards returned to his native place, and at his own expence re-built the greatest part of the parish-church of this town. The house in which he lived remained till about a century ago, when it was divided into tenements, and let out to different tenants.

The town-hall at Newbury is an ancient edifice, built of brick, and supported by pillars; and in this hall the inhabitants have fixed up a fine historical picture of the surrender of Calais, which was painted by Mr. Pine in the year 1762, and for which he received the first premium of one hundred pounds given by the Society of Arts.—There is an alms-house here, said to have been originally founded by King John, for six poor men, and six poor women; each person is allowed 21 pence per week, four shillings each on the fair day, 13s. 4d. at Christmas, an hundred faggots of wood yearly, and a new coat or gown every two years.

There

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There are several agreeable villages in the neighbourhood of Newbury, particularly *Enbourne*, which is remarkable for the following singular and whimsical custom of the manor. The widow of every copyhold tenant is intitled to the whole copyhold estate of her husband, so long as she continues unmarried and chaste; if she marries, she loses her widow's estate without remedy; but if she is guilty of incontinence, she may recover her forfeiture, by riding into court on the next court day, mounted on a black ram, with her face towards the tail, and the tail in her hand, and repeating the following lines:

" Here I am, riding on a black ram,
 " Like a whore as I am;
 " And for my *crincum crancum*
 " Have lost my *bincum bancum*,
 " And for my tail's game,
 " Am brought to this worldly shame,
 " Therefore, good Mr. Steward, let me have my lands again."

At *Hamstead Marshall*, which is not far from Newbury, Lord Craven has a handsome seat and park. And at a little distance from hence is the castle of Donnington, pleasantly situated, at the brow of a hill, near the small river Lambourn, and celebrated for being the residence of our famous English poet, Geoffrey Chaucer. Since the beginning of the present century, there was a tree in the park, under which, according to a traditionary report, he used to compose his poems.

H U N G E R F O R D

Is a small market-town, about eight miles from Newbury, and sixty-four from London. It is governed by a constable, who is chosen yearly, and is lord of the manor, which he holds immediately of the King, for the time being. The church is an handsome Gothic structure. They have a horn here that holds about a quart, and which appears by an inscription on it to have been given to this town by the famous John of Gaunt, son of K. Edward III. together with a grant of the royal fishery, in a part of the river which abounds with good trout and craw-fish.

L A M-

L A M B O U R N E.

This is a small town, sixty-eight miles from London, which derives its name from the little river Lambourne which rises near it. It is not a place of much note, but the adjacent country is pleasant. There is an hospital here for ten poor men, which was founded in 1502. This town is most remarkable for its rivulet, which is always highest in summer, but so low in winter, as to be almost entirely lost.

At a little distance from hence, is the most remarkable curiosity in Berkshire. This is the rude figure of a White Horse, which takes up near an acre of ground, on the side of a green hill. A horse is known to have been the Saxon standard; and some have supposed that this figure was made by Hengist, one of the Saxon Kings; but Mr. Wise, the author of a letter on this subject to Dr. Mead, published in 1738, brings several arguments to shew that it was made by the order of Alfred, in the reign of his brother Ethelred, as a monument of his victory gained over the Danes, in the year 871, near Ashdown, now called Ashen or Ashbury Park, which is at present one of the seats of Lord Craven, and at a little distance from this hill. Others however suppose it to have been partly the effect of accident, and partly the work of shepherds, who observing a rude figure, somewhat resembling a horse, as there are in the veins of wood and stone many figures that resemble trees, caves, and other objects, reduced it by degrees to a more regular figure. But however this be, it has been a custom immemorial for the neighbouring peasants to assemble on a certain day about Midsummer, and clear away the weeds from this white horse, and trim the edges to preserve its colour and shape; after which the evening is spent in mirth and festivity.—The hill on which this stands is called White Horse Hill; and to the north of this hill there is a long valley reaching from the western side of the county, where it borders upon Wiltshire, as far as Wantage, which from this hill is called the Vale of White Horse, and is the most fertile part of the county.

F A R R I N G D O N

Is a neat clean town, sixty-eight miles from London, and pleasantly situated on a hill near the river Thames. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, and has painted glass

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glass in the windows, besides many antient monuments. — Henry Pye, Esq; has an handsome seat here.

W A N T A G E.

This is an agreeable market-town, sixty miles from London, and eight from Farringdon; and is pleasantly situated in a fine sporting country. This place was formerly a royal villa, and is said to have been the birth place of King Alfred. — The country adjoining to Wantage is extremely pleasant.

E A S T - I L S L E Y.

This is a small market-town, fifty-four miles from London, agreeably situated in a sporting country. The houses in the town are neat, and the adjoining lands well cultivated. The market, which is held on Wednesday, is said to be the greatest for sheep of any in England.

About three miles eastward of Ilsey is a village called *Aldworth*, a place of great antiquity, where was formerly a castle, which was destroyed in the reign of King Edward III. The parish church is a venerable Gothic structure, and has in it several antient monuments; among these are nine, with the figures of the deceased cut in stone, and lying in a sleeping posture; five of which are supposed to have been knights templars. The church-yard is extremely rural, and has in it one of the finest yew-trees in England, being no less than twenty-seven feet in circumference.

W A L L I N G F O R D

Is forty-six miles from London, and is a large town, and makes a good appearance. It is situated on the river Thames, over which it has a stone bridge, that is 309 yards long, having nineteen arches, and four draw-bridges. It has a market-house, over which is the town-hall. The chief support of this town is the malt-trade. There was formerly a famous castle here, some remains of which are yet to be seen.

Within a mile of this town is a farm called *Chosely*, the lands belonging to which lie all together, and are let at 100*l.* per annum; and there is one barn on the estate, the roof of which is three hundred and six feet long. — This used to be considered as the largest farm in England, but it is probably not so now, since the pernicious practice of engrossing and enlarging farms has become so prevalent. Some artful reasoners have, indeed, endeavoured to prove, that large farms

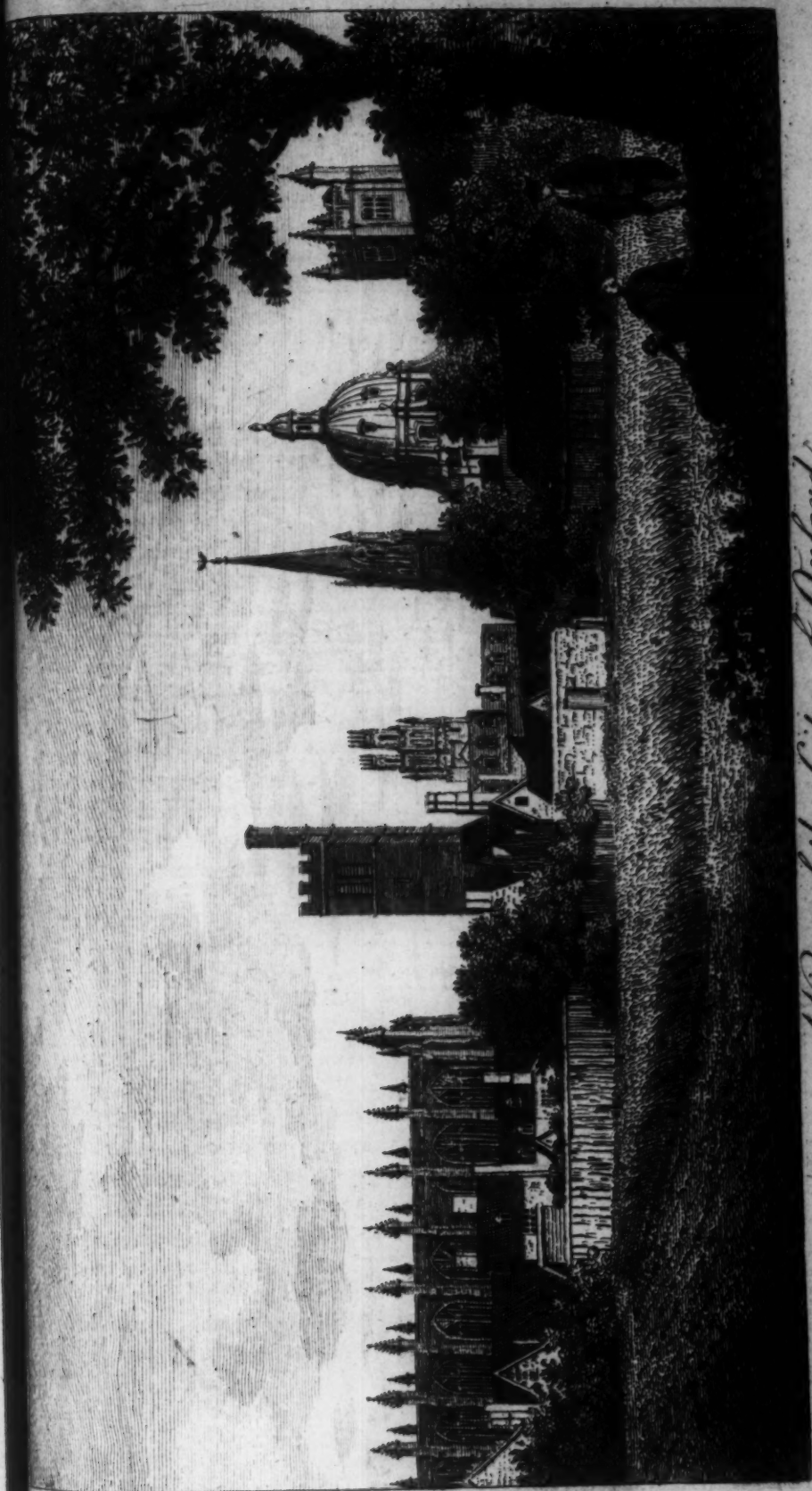
are most advantageous to the community; but the arguments brought in support of this opinion appear to be extremely sophistical; and it is certain, that an equitable and benevolent government would chuse to encourage that mode of cultivating the earth, that was most favourable to population, and by which the greatest number of industrious families might be comfortably supported; which cannot be the case when the monopolization of farms becomes general, and which therefore may justly be considered, for this and various other reasons, as a most pernicious practice.

A B I N G D O N

Is situated on a branch of the Thames, at the distance of fifty-six miles from London. It is a large, populous, and flourishing town: the streets are well paved, and center in a spacious area, where the market is held. In the center of this area is the market-house, which is a curious building of ashler-work, supported on lofty pillars, with a large hall of free-stone above, in which the assizes are frequently held, and other public business transacted. There was formerly a very magnificent abbey here, which was destroyed at the general dissolution of the monasteries. Here are two parish churches, both of which are said to have been built by one of the abbots of Abingdon. There is also here a well-endowed free-school, and two alms-houses for poor people of both sexes. The trade carried on by the inhabitants of this town chiefly consists in dealing in corn, and preparing malt, which is conveyed down the river in barges to London.

O X F O R D.

This famous city is fifty-five miles from London, and is a place of great antiquity, but is chiefly distinguished by its illustrious university. It is situated on the bank of the Thames, near its confluence with several rivers, in a beautiful plain, and a sweet air. It is encompassed by meadows and corn-fields. The meadows, which are chiefly to the south and west, are about a mile in extent; beyond which are hills of a moderate height, bounding the prospect. The eastern prospect is likewise bounded by hills at a little distance. The north is open to corn-fields and enclosures for many miles together, without an hill to intercept the free current of air, which purifies it from noxious vapours. When this city was



A View of the City of Oxford.

was first fortified does not appear; but the walls now remaining are supposed to have been raised upon some former foundation about the time of the Norman invasion. Robert D'Oille erected the castle, at the command of William the Norman in 1071. Its massy ruins shew its strength and extent.

Oxford, including the suburbs, is a mile in length from east to west, and almost as much in breadth from north to south, being three miles in circumference; but it is of an irregular figure, and several void spaces are comprehended within these limits, besides the many courts and gardens belonging to the respective colleges. The city, properly so called, which was formerly surrounded by a wall, with bastions at about 150 feet distance from each other, is of an oblong form. There are still some considerable remains of the old walls.

The streets of Oxford are spacious, clean, and regular; the private buildings in general are neat, and the public ones sumptuous. There is a cathedral here, and thirteen parish churches. The city is governed by a mayor, a high-steward, a recorder, four aldermen, eight assistants, a town-clerk, other officers, and twenty-four common-council-men. The mayor, for the time being, officiates at the coronation of our kings, in the buttery, and has a large gilt bowl and cover for his fee. The magistracy of this city is subjected to the chancellor or vice-chancellor of the university, in all affairs of moment, even relating to the city; and the vice-chancellor every year administers an oath to the magistrates and sheriffs, that they will maintain the privileges of the university. And on the 10th of February annually, the mayor and sixty-two of the chief citizens solemnly pay each one penny, at St. Mary's church here, in lieu of a great fine laid upon the city, in the reign of King Edward the Third, when sixty-two of the students were murdered by the citizens.

The town hall here is a neat modern edifice, in which the assizes for the county, and the city and county sessions are held; and there are in this city five or six charity-schools, in which about 300 children are taught and clothed. There are two stone bridges here over the Thames, which is navigable by barges to the city, from whence large quantities of malt are sent by barges to London.

THE UNIVERSITY

Is one of the noblest in the world, especially for the opulency of its endowments, and the conveniency of its mansions for study. It consists of twenty colleges, and five halls, and is a corporation governed by a chancellor, a high steward, a vice-chancellor, two proctors, a public orator, a keeper of the archives, a register, three esquire-beadles, carrying silver maces gilt and wrought, and three yeomen beadles, with plain silver maces, and a verger with a silver rod. The chancellor is usually a peer of the realm, he is the supreme governor of the university, and is chosen by the students in convocation, and continues in his office for life. The high-steward is named by the chancellor, but must be approved by the university. His office, which continues also for life, is to assist the chancellor in the government of the university, and to hear and determine capital causes, according to the laws of the land, and the privileges of the university. The vice-chancellor, who is always in orders, and the head of some college, is appointed by the chancellor, and approved by the university: he is the chancellor's deputy, and exercises the power of his substituent, by governing the university according to its statutes: he chuses four pro-vice-chancellors out of the heads of colleges, to officiate in his absence. The two proctors are masters of arts, and are chosen annually in turn out of the several colleges and halls. Their business is to keep the peace, punish disorders, inspect weights and measures, appoint scholastic exercises, and the taking of degrees. The public orator writes letters in the name of the university, and harangues princes and other great personages, who visit it. The keeper of the archives has the custody of the charters and records; and the register records all the public transactions of the university in convocation.

Besides the public officers of the university which have been mentioned, there are particular and private officers in all colleges and halls, to see that due order and discipline be observed and kept up, lectures read, disputations performed, and all the liberal sciences read and taught, as logic, physics, ethics, metaphysics, astronomy, geography, and geometry, &c. of which also there are public lecturers and professors.

The degrees taken in the university are in divinity, law, physic, and arts; four years are required for taking a bachelor of arts degree; seven years for a master of arts;

fourteen

THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 245

fourteen years for a bachelor of divinity; eighteen years for a doctor of divinity; seven years for a bachelor of laws, physic, or music; and twelve years for a doctor of laws, physic, or music.

As to the antiquity of Oxford, it is supposed to have been a considerable place even in the time of the Romans; and Camden says, that "wise antiquity did, even in the British age, consecrate this place to the muses." Before the time of King Alfred, it was stiled an university; and the best historians admit, that this most excellent prince was only a restorer of learning here. Alfred built three colleges here; one for divinity, another for philosophy, and a third for grammar.

The number of officers, fellows, and scholars, maintained at present by the revenues of this university, is about 1000, and the number of such scholars as live at their own charge is usually about 2000; the whole amounting to 3000 persons, besides a great number of inferior officers and servants, belonging to the several colleges and halls, which have each their statutes and rules for government, under their respective heads, with fellows and tutors. Here are four terms every year for public exercises, lectures, and disputations, and set days and hours when the professors of every faculty read their lectures, and in some of the colleges are public lectures, to which all persons are admitted.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

These, with one side of the Library on the west, form within a spacious square of 105 feet. The principal front of the schools on the outside is about 175 feet in length, in the middle whereof is a great gate, with a magnificent tower over it, in which is Sir Henry Savile's library; and the highest apartments of the tower are used for astronomical observations, and some experiments in philosophy; and from thence called the Observatory.

The Schools are as follows, 1. the Divinity school; 2. the Anatomy school; 3. the Natural Philosophy school; 4. the Moral Philosophy school; 5. the Law school; 6. the History school; 7. the Language school; 8. the Geometry school; 9. the Metaphysic school; 10. the Logic school; 11. the Music school; a new one was built in Holywell, in 1747; 12. the Astronomy school; 13. the Rhetoric school.

In these public schools the professors are to read their lectures in the several sciences every day in the week during term.

term-time, except Sundays. In which schools likewise all scholars are obliged, by the statutes of the university, at such and such certain times to perform such and such exercises for their several degrees, as disputations, declamations, examinations, lectures, &c.

Three sides of the upper story of the Schools, form one entire room, which is called the PICTURE GALLERY. It is furnished with the portraits of many learned and famous men, several large cabinets of medals, and some cases of books; being intended as a continuation of the Bodleian library. Among the paintings, are portraits of King Alfred, William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, Sir Thomas Bodley, Dr. Wallis, Sir Henry Savile, Sir Hans Sloane, Dr. Halley, Samuel Butler, Archbishop Usher, Hugo Grotius, Joseph Scaliger, Isaac Casaubon, Meric Casaubon, Erasmus by Hans Holbein, Franciscus Junius by Vandyke, John Selden, Montaigne, Father Paul, Dr. Edward Pococke, Galilæo, Chaucer, Dr. Henry Hammond, Sir Thomas More, Dr. Samuel Clarke, Samuel Bochart, Sir William Dugdale, Michael Angelo, Ben Jonson, Pope, Prior, Swift, the Earl of Clarendon, Dr. Radcliffe, Lord Falkland, Mr. Locke, and many other eminent and learned persons.

The *Arundel marbles* are placed to advantage in a large apartment on the north-side of the schools. They consist of some very antient monuments, both Greek and Latin, procured from the Levant, and were most of them the gift of Henry Howard, Earl of Arundel.—In the Logic and Moral Philosophy school is also placed a fine collection of statues, bustos, and marble sculptures, which were many years at Easton, the seat of the Earl of Pomfret, and were presented to the University of Oxford by the late Countess of Pomfret.

The UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, usually called the BODLEIAN LIBRARY, from Sir Thomas Bodley its principal founder, is a large, lofty structure, in the form of a Roman H, and is said to contain the greatest number of books of any library in Europe, (except perhaps the Vatican) a catalogue whereof is printed, in two volumes, folio. The original library has been prodigiously increased by many large and valuable collections of Greek and Oriental manuscripts, as well as other choice and curious books.—Among a great number of most valuable books in this library, are the following:—The four Gospels in Greek, above 1000 years old, in large capital letters.

letters.—The four Gospels, a Latin manuscript, 1400 years old, supposed to be one of those books which were brought over into Britain by St. Augustine. — The Acts of the Apostles, in Latin and Greek, thought to be as old as the last, and to have formerly belonged to Venerable Bede.

The RADCLIFFE LIBRARY is situated between St. Mary's church and the public schools, and was built at the sole expence of that eminent physician, Dr. John Radcliffe, who bequeathed 40,000*l.* for this purpose. It is a sumptuous pile of building, standing upon arcades, which circularly disposed, inclose a spacious dome, in the center of which is the library itself, and into which there is an ascent by a flight of spiral steps, well executed. The library, which is a compleat pattern of elegance and majesty in building, is adorned with fine compartments of stucco. It is inclosed by circular series of arches, beautified with festoons, and supported by pilasters of the Ionic order; behind these arches are formed two circular galleries above and below, where the books are disposed in elegant cabinets; the compartments of the cieling in the upper gallery are finely stuccoed; the pavement is of two colours, and made of a peculiar species of stone brought from Hart's Forest in Germany; and over the door is a statue of the founder. The finishing and decorations of this Attic edifice are all in the highest taste imaginable.

The THEATRE at Oxford is another most magnificent structure, which was erected by Sir Christopher Wren, at the expence of Archbishop Sheldon. The building is in the form of a Roman D; the front of it, which stands opposite to the divinity school, is adorned with Corinthian pillars, and several other decorations. The greatest curiosity of this theatre is its flat roof, which has no pillars to support it, being entirely kept up with braces and screws, and whose main beams are made of several pieces of timber, from side-wall to side-wall 80 feet over one way, and 70 the other, whose lockages are in several respects perhaps not to be paralleled in the world; and is the subject of an excellent mathematical treatise, written by the learned Dr. Wallis. The inside of this flat roof is decorated with allegorical painting. In this edifice are kept the public acts, called the *Comitia* or *Encœnia*; at which solemn times, for the preservation of order, there are appointed, besides the curators of the theatre, several proctors of it, who are to take care that

that the public peace be kept undisturbed, and that all persons be placed in their proper stations. When the theatre is properly filled, the vice-chancellor being seated in the center of the semicircular part, the noblemen and doctors on his right and left hand, the proctors and curators in their robes, the masters of arts, bachelors, and under-graduates, in their respective habits and places, together with strangers of both sexes, it makes a most august appearance.

On the west of the Theatre is the ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, which is an handsome edifice, that was finished in 1682, by Sir Christopher Wren, and is remarkable for its symmetry and elegance. The eastern portico is highly finished in the Corinthian order, and adorned with variety of characteristical embellishments. This Musæum is a famous repository of natural and artificial rarities, and of several Roman antiquities, as altars, lamps, medals, &c. and the building was erected at the expence of the university, at the request of Elias Ashmole, Esq; who placed here the large collection of rarities which he had collected and purchased. And this collection has been since greatly enriched by several ample and valuable benefactions. The principal natural curiosities consist of the bodies, horns, bones, &c. of animals, preserved dry, or in spirits; curious and numerous specimens of metals, minerals, shells, ores, and fossils. On the first floor of this building lectures are read in experimental philosophy; and, in proper apartments underneath, is an elaboratory for courses of chemistry and anatomy. There are three small libraries in this edifice, the first called Ashmole's study, which contains his printed books and manuscripts relating to heraldry and antiquity, and the manuscripts of Sir William Dugdale; the second contains Dr. Lister's library; and the third that of Anthony Wood, with his laborious collections, chiefly relating to this city and university.

On the other side of the theatre, and north of the schools, stands the CLARENDON PRINTING HOUSE, built in the year 1711, with the profits arising from the sale of Lord Clarendon's History; the copy of which was given to the university by the Lords Clarendon and Rochester, sons to that nobleman. It is a grand edifice, 115 feet in length; and consists of two lofty stories. Towards the street, is a magnificent portico in the Doric order; the height of the columns being equal to the two stories. This is answered on the opposite side, next the schools, by a frontispiece supported by three quarter

quarter columns of the same dimensions; and the Doric entablature encompasses the whole building. On the top, are statues of the nine Muses; and over the entrance on the south-side a statue of the Earl of Clarendon. As we enter on this side, on the right hand, are the apartments where bibles and common-prayer books are printed, under the privilege and appointment of the university. On the left, is the university-press. Besides the apartments assigned for the compositors, pressmen, &c. there is one with a lobby, or ante-chamber, where the heads of houses and delegates meet, which is well proportioned and finely finished. In this room is a very good picture of Queen Anne by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

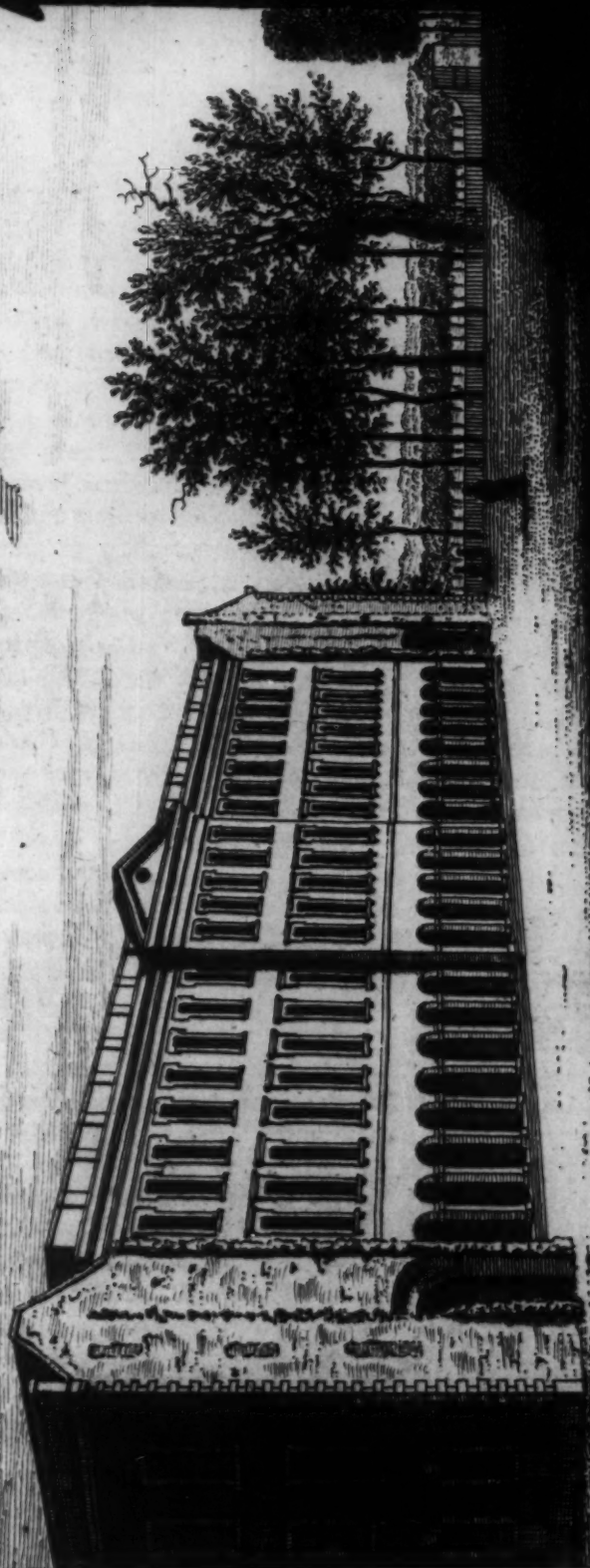
The PHYSIC GARDEN is situated on the south of Magdalen college, and was given to the university by Henry D'Anvers, Earl of Danby, who purchased the ground, containing five acres, of Magdalen college, surrounded it with a lofty wall, and erected, next to the street, a parapet with iron palisades thereon. The piers which support these and other iron-work, are properly ornamented with vases of fruits and flowers of various kinds, serving as a fence to the green-court, through which we pass to the gate-way; the design of which is attributed to Inigo Jones, and is justly esteemed an elegant piece of architecture. In the center over the arch is a bust of the founder, Lord Danby; and on the left hand of the entrance is a statue of Charles I. and on the right hand, one of Charles II. The garden is divided into four quarters, with a broad walk down the middle, a cross walk, and one all round. Near the entrance, are two elegant and useful green-houses, one on the right, the other on the left, built by the university for *Exotics*, of which there is a considerable collection. In the quarters, within the yew hedges, is the greatest variety of such plants as require no artificial heat to nourish them, all ranged in the proper classes, and numbered. Eastward of the garden, without the walls, is an excellent hot-house; where tender plants, such whose native soil lies between the Tropics, are raised and brought to great perfection; viz: the anana or pine apple, the plantain, the coffee shrub, the cinnamon, the creeping cereus, and many others. This useful foundation has been much improved by the late Dr. Sherrard, who brought from Smyrna a valuable collection of Botanical Books, and a valuable *Hortus Siccus*. The east-end of the building is the apartment for the professor, whose salary is paid out of the interest of 3000l. given by Dr.

Sherrard for that purpose. An assistant to the professor is provided by the university.—We now proceed to give some account of the several Colleges and Halls of this famous university.

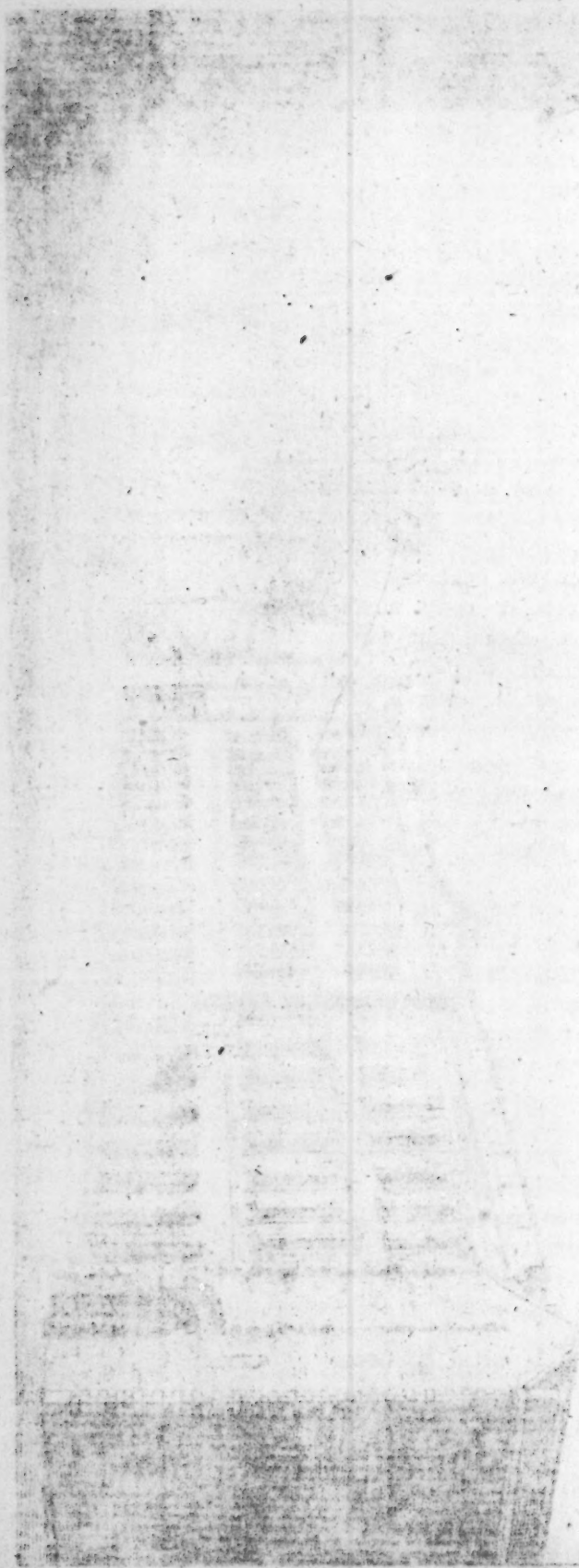
MAGDALEN COLLEGE is situated without the east-gate of the city, on the bank of the river Cherwell; a Doric portal, (decorated with a statue of the founder, and other figures,) leads to the west front of this college, which is a striking specimen of the Gothic manner. The first court is a venerable old quadrangle, surrounded by a cloister, on the south-side of which are the chapel and hall; the windows of the chapel are finely painted; the hall is a stately Gothic room, adorned with fine paintings. From this court there is a narrow passage on the north, that leads to a beautiful opening, one side of which is bounded by a noble and elegant edifice, in the modern taste, consisting of three stories, and 300 feet in length. This college is remarkable for a most beautiful situation, and a charming prospect. It was founded in the reign of Henry VI. by William Patten, commonly called William of Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester. It consists of a president, forty fellows, thirty demies, school master and usher, four chaplains, an organist, eight clerks, and sixteen choristers, and three readers of divinity, and natural and moral philosophy. The whole number of students, including gentlemen commoners, is about 120.

The Grove belonging to this college, which is laid out in walks, and well planted with trees, seems perfectly adapted to indulge contemplation: it has in it about forty head of deer. Besides the walks which are in the grove, there is a very delightful, and much frequented one, round a meadow containing about thirteen acres, surrounded by the several branches of the Cherwell, from whence it is called the *Water-walks*. It is shaded with tall trees, and there is an agreeable view of the adjacent country.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE is situated on the north side of the High-Street, opposite University College. The front of this college is in the stile of the palace of Luxemburgh, and is at once elegant and magnificent: in the middle of it a cupola, under which is a statue of the late Queen Caroline. This beautiful college is one entire piece of well executed modern architecture; the whole area on which it stands is an oblong square, 300 feet in length, and 220 in breadth; which area
being



A View of Magdalen College, Oxford.



being divided by the hall and chapel, is formed into two courts; the first, or south court, is 140 feet in length, and 130 in breadth; it is surrounded by a beautiful cloyster, except upon the north-side, which is formed by the chapel and hall, and finely finished in the Doric order: in the center, over a portico leading to the north court, stands a handsome cupola, supported by eight Ionic columns; the north court is 130 feet long, and 90 broad. On the west stands the library, which is a fine pile of building, of the Corinthian order, upwards of 100 feet in length. This college was founded by Robert de Eglesfield, chaplain to Queen Philippa, wife to King Edward III. That princess was a benefactress to this college, and it was in compliment to her that it was styled Queen's College. Its revenues have been much increased by several benefactors; and its members are one provost, sixteen fellows, two chaplains, eight taberdars (so called from *Taberdum*, a short gown which they formerly wore) sixteen scholars, two clerks, and forty exhibitioners; eight fellows, and four scholars, supported by an estate left to the college by Mr. Mitcheil of Richmond; besides a great number of masters, bachelors, gentlemen commoners, and other students; in all about 110.—Among other singular customs in this college, one is, that of calling the students to dinner and supper every day by the sound of a trumpet; and another is, having a Boar's head on Christmas day, ushered in very solemnly with an old Monkish song.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE is a spacious, superb, and uniform structure, began in 1634, at the expence of Charles Greenwood, formerly a fellow here, and carried on by Sir Simon Bennet, and completed by Dr. John Radcliffe. The magnificent north front of this college is extended 260 feet along the south side of a street called the High Street, having two stately portals, with a tower over each; the western portal leads to an handsome Gothic quadrangle, 100 feet square; on the south side of the eastern quadrangle are the chapel, and hall; there is also a third court of three sides, each of which are about 80 feet.—The Hall, at the entrance of which is a statue of King Alfred, has been lately fitted up in a very beautiful Gothic style, and is a most complete room of the kind.

The colleges, or halls, which were erected by King Alfred in the year 872, were situated near, or on the spot where this college now stands; and that excellent Prince gave the

students in his seminaries certain pensions issuing from the exchequer. But these halls were soon alienated to the citizens of Oxford, and their pensions were suppressed about the reign of William the Norman. But in 1219, William archdeacon of Durham purchased of the citizens, one of the halls which had been originally erected by Alfred, and endowed it with lands. A society being thus established, many other benefactors improved the revenues and buildings. This college now has a master, twelve fellows, seventeen scholars, and many other students, amounting in the whole to above seventy.

ALL SOULS COLLEGE was founded in 1437, by Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury; and consists chiefly of two courts. The first court is a Gothic edifice, 124 feet in length, and 72 in breadth; the chapel on the north side is a stately pile; and the hall, which forms one side of an area to the east, is an elegant modern room, adorned with many portraits and busts. Adjoining to the hall is the buttery, which is a well proportioned room, of an oval figure, and an arched stone roof, ornamented with curious workmanship. The second court is a magnificent Gothic quadrangle, 172 feet in length, and 155 in breadth; on the south are the chapel and hall, on the west a cloister, with a grand portico; on the east two Gothic towers, in the center of a range of fine apartments, and on the north a library of uncommon magnificence. It is 200 feet in length, 30 in breadth, and 40 in height, and finished in the most splendid and elegant manner. It was built at the expence of Colonel Codrington, who laid out in it 6000*l.* and also gave his own library to be deposited in it, and 4000*l.* to purchase new books. This college maintains a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, and nine scholarships.

BRAZEN-NOSE COLLEGE was founded in the year 1507, by the joint benefaction of William Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, and Sir Richard Sutton. There is a brazen-nose on the top of the College gate, which gives denomination to the college. The refectory is neat and convenient, adorned with pictures of the principal benefactors, and good paintings in glass of the two founders. It stands on the south side of the first quadrangle, in the center of which is a statue of Cain and Abel; the figures of which are very striking. Through a passage on the left hand of the gate of the first quadrangle



A View of All Souls College in Oxford.

we enter the second. This is a more modern structure than the other, and supposed to have been erected by Sir Christopher Wren. This college maintains a principal, twenty fellows, thirty-two scholars, and four exhibitioners; and there are about forty students besides.

HERTFORD COLLEGE stands opposite to the grand gate of the public schools, and consists of one irregular court, which has been lately beautified, from a fund raised for that purpose. Part of this court consists of a few modern buildings, in the stile of which the whole college is to be re-built, according to a plan consisting of one quadrangle, projected in the year 1747. This college consists of a principal, two senior fellows or tutors, junior fellows or assistants, thirty undergraduate-students, and four scholars.

NEW COLLEGE was founded by the famous William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, in the year 1375. It has been called New College from its first foundation, being at that time highly regarded for its extent and grandeur. The first court is 168 feet in length, and 129 in breadth; in the center of which is a statue of Minerva. The north-side, which consists of the chapel and hall, is a venerable specimen of Gothic magnificence; the two upper stories of the east-side form the library, and on the west are the lodgings of the warden. The chapel, for beauty and grandeur, exceeds all in the university; and near it is a cloister, 146 feet in length on two sides, and 105 the other two. Contiguous to it, on the north, is a large and lofty tower, with ten bells. From the first quadrangle there is a passage into another, called Garden-court, the beautiful area of which, by means of a succession of retiring wings, displays itself gradually in approaching the garden, from which it is separated by an iron palisade, 130 feet in length.

On the north side of the chapel is preserved the crozier of the founder, which is usually shewn to strangers; a well preserved piece of antiquity, and almost the only one in the kingdom. It is of silver gilt, and near seven feet high, finely worked and embellished in the Gothic taste; and though it is near four hundred years old, it has lost little of its original beauty.— In the garden of the college, there is a lofty artificial mount, encompassed with several hedges of juniper, adorned with trees cut into several shapes, with stone steps and winding walks up to the top, and the top encompassed with rails and seats,
and

and a tree growing in the middle. Here are also shady walks, arbours, and a bowling green.—The members of this college are one warden, seventy fellows, ten chaplains, three clerks, sixteen choristers, and one sexton, together with many gentlemen commoners.

WADHAM COLLEGE was founded by Nicholas Wadham, Esq; and built, in pursuance of his will, by Dorothy his widow, in 1613. It is one of the most regular, uniform, and beautiful colleges belonging to this university; and consists of one noble quadrangle, which is nearly 130 feet square. The windows of the chapel, which stands on the east-side of the court, are beautifully painted; the east window is admirably dawn by one Van Ling, a Dutchman; it represents the passion of our Saviour, and is said to have cost 1500*l*. The present members of this college are the warden, fifteen fellows, two chaplains, fifteen scholars, and sixteen exhibitioners; the whole number of students being usually about eighty. The scholars, out of whom the fellows are to be chosen, to be taken three out of Somersetshire, and three out of Essex; the rest out of any county in Great Britain.

TRINITY COLLEGE was founded by Sir Thomas Pope, who was privy counsellor to Queen Mary, and an intimate friend of Sir Thomas More. It consists of two courts: in the first court are the chapel, hall, library, and lodgings of the president. The chapel, which was built in 1695, is a fine structure, richly and beautifully finished. The second court is an elegant pile, erected by Sir Christopher Wren. The gardens of this college are extensive, well laid out, and kept in good order. This college consists of a president, twelve fellows, and twelve scholars. These, with the other members, gentlemen commoners, commoners, &c. amount to near seventy.

BALIOI COLLEGE was founded in 1262, by Sir John Baliol of Bernard Castle in Yorkshire, father of John Baliol, King of Scotland, and Devorguilla his consort, daughter of Alexander III. King of Scotland. This college consists chiefly of one court, which we enter by an handsome gate with a tower over it. The buildings about this court are antient, except the east end. The members of this college are a
master,

master, twelve fellows, fourteen scholars, and eighteen exhibitioners; the whole number of students amounting to about fifty.

St. JOHN'S COLLEGE is situated north of Baliol and Trinity colleges, having a terrace, with a row of lofty elms before it. The buildings of this college chiefly consist of two large quadrangles, uniformly and elegantly built. In the first court are the chapel and hall on the north-side, and the president's lodgings on the east. The east and west sides of the second court are supported by stately and beautiful piazzas. In the hall, which is very handsome, is a picture of St. John the Baptist, by Titian. The gardens belonging to this college are extremely agreeable, very extensive, and well laid out. The college was founded by Sir Thomas White, Alderman of London; and the members of it are a president, fifty fellows, two chaplains, an organist, five singing men, six choristers, and two sextons; the number of students of all sorts being usually about sixty.

WORCESTER COLLEGE is situated on an eminence on the bank of the Thames. At entering into the college, we have the chapel and hall on each side, both of which are 29 feet in breadth, and 55 in length: these are just built. The library, which is furnished with a fine collection of books, is a magnificent Ionic edifice, on the west of the chapel and hall, and is 100 feet in length, supported by a spacious cloister. According to a plan proposed, this college is to consist of a very spacious and elegant building; but it is not yet completed.—This was formerly called Gloucester-college, being a seminary for educating the novices of Gloucester-monastery. But being suppressed at the Reformation, it was converted into a palace for the Bishop of Oxford; but was soon after turned into an academical hall by Sir Thomas White, the founder of St. John's college; in which state it continued, till Sir Thomas Cooke, a Worcestershire gentleman, procured for it a charter of incorporation by the name of Worcester-college, and endowed it with 15000*l.* for the maintenance of a provost and six fellows.—There are now a provost, twenty fellows, and eleven scholars; and the whole number of students is about forty.

EXETER COLLEGE was founded by Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, in the reign of King Edward the Second.
The

The building consists chiefly of one handsome quadrangle; in the center of the front, which is 220 feet in length, there is a beautiful gate of rustic work, with a handsome tower. This college has a rector, twenty-five fellows, one scholar, who is bible clerk, and two exhibitioners; the whole number of members about eighty.

JESUS COLLEGE was founded by Hugh Price, L. L. D. who began to build, and competently endowed it in 1571. But Queen Elizabeth is also sometimes termed the founder of this college, because she granted the charter for it, and also timber for erecting it out of two adjoining forests. The buildings consist of two courts, in the first of which is the hall, the chapel, and the principal's lodgings. The library is on the west side of the inner court, and the other three sides are finished in a decent and uniform manner. This college is chiefly for Welchmen, and consists of a principal, nineteen fellows, and eighteen scholars, besides a considerable number of exhibitioners.

LINCOLN COLLEGE was founded by two of the Bishops of Lincoln; one completing what the other left imperfect. It consists of two quadrangular courts, and maintains a rector, fifteen fellows, twelve exhibitioners, and eight scholars, with a bible-clerk, besides the independent members.

Oriel COLLEGE chiefly consists of one regular, uniform, well-built quadrangle. On the north-side are the library and the provost's lodgings; on the east the hall, and the entrance into the chapel, which runs eastward from thence; and on the south and west sides are the chambers of the fellows and other students. King Edward II. was the titular founder of this college, but Adam de Brome, his almoner, was the real founder of it: for that prince did little more than grant licence to his almoner to build it. King Edward III. gave to this society a tenement called *Le Oriel*, on which ground the college now stands, and from whence it derives its name. The present members of this college are a provost, eighteen fellows, and fourteen exhibitioners; the whole number of students of all sorts being about eighty.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE was founded by Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, in 1516; and consists of one quadrangle, an elegant pile of modern building, in which are pleasant

pleasant and commodious rooms, and a cloister adjoining; and also a neat structure, which looks eastward towards Merton college grove, in which are apartments appropriated to gentlemen commoners.

MERTON COLLEGE was founded by Walter de Merton, Lord High Chancellor of England in the reign of Henry the Third, and afterwards Bishop of Rochester. This college is situated east of Corpus Christi, and consists of three courts. The largest, or inner-court, is about 110 feet long, and 100 broad. The chapel is at the west end of the first court, and is likewise the parish-church of St. John Baptist de Merton. It is one of the largest, and best proportioned Gothic structures in the university. The gardens are very pleasant, having the advantage of a prospect of the adjacent walks and country from the south terrace. This college maintains a warden, twenty-eight scholars, fourteen other scholars upon a different foundation, termed post-masters, two chaplains and two clerks; the whole number of students of all sorts being about eighty.

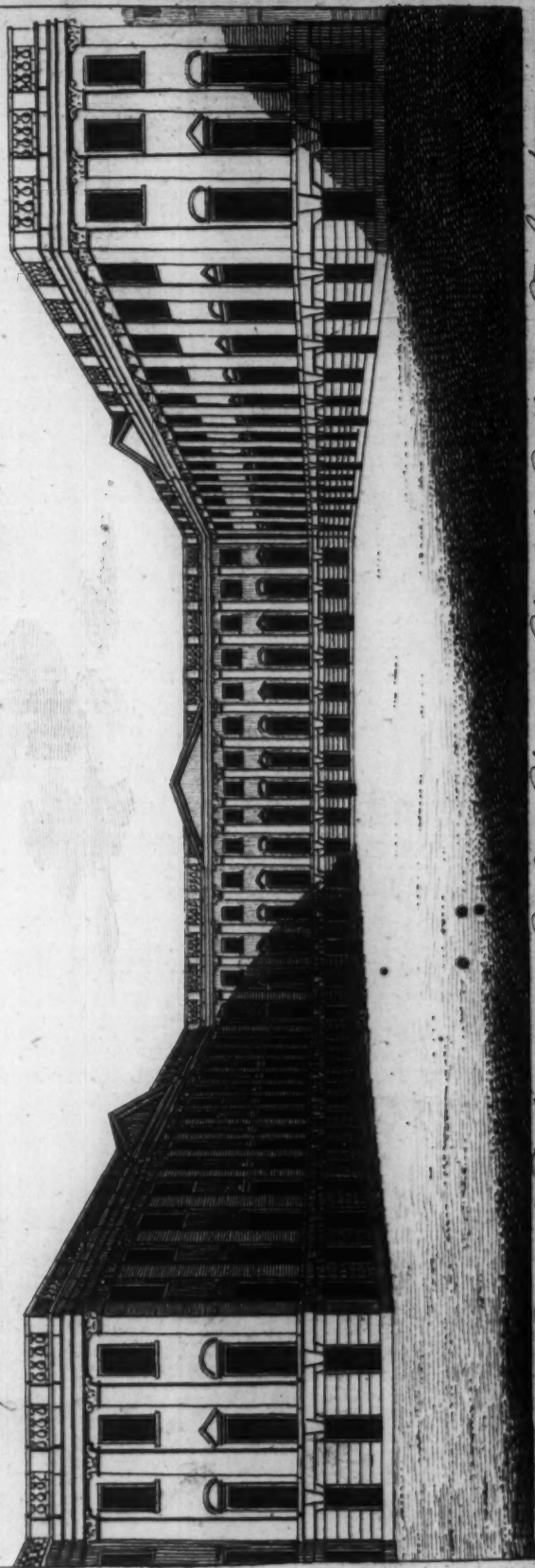
CHRIST-CHURCH COLLEGE is the largest and most august of all the colleges in Oxford. It was first began to be founded by Cardinal Wolsey, on the site of the priory of St. Frideswide, but his disgrace and death hindered him from completing it. It was afterwards settled and endowed by King Henry VIII. The front is very stately, extending to the length of 382 feet, and terminating at each end by two corresponding turrets. In the center is a grand Gothic entrance, the proportions and ornaments of which are remarkably magnificent; over it is a beautiful tower, in which are ten musical bells, and a great bell called Tom, that weighs near 17,000 pounds, and on the sound of which, every night at nine o'clock, the students of the whole university are enjoined by statute to repair to their respective societies. This college consists of four quadrangles, one of which, distinguished by the name of the Grand Quadrangle, is 264 by 261 feet in the clear. The greatest part of the south-side is formed by the hall, which is considerably elevated above the rest of the building; and, taken as a detached structure, is a noble specimen of antient magnificence. This room is one of the largest and most superb of any in the kingdom; it contains eight windows on each side, is 120 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth, and its cieling is 30 feet high. The Church of this college is situated at the east end of the Grand Quadrangle, and is the cathedral of the diocese: it is an antient venerable structure; the roof of the choir is a beautiful piece of stone work, and some of the windows are finely painted.

Peckwater court, to the north-east of the Grand Quadrangle, is perhaps the most elegant edifice in the university: it has three uniform sides, each of which has fifteen windows in front: and on the fourth side of this court is a magnificent library. East of Peckwater-court is Canterbury court, originally Canterbury College. It is a small court, and chiefly remarkable for its antiquity. The fourth quadrangle is Chaplain's Court, which stands north-east of Canterbury Court. This college maintains a dean, eight canons, 101 students, 8 chaplains, 8 singing men, and as many choristers, a school-master, an usher, an organist, and a teacher of music. There is a gravel-walk belonging to this college, planted on each side with elms, which is a quarter of a mile in length, and of a proportionable breadth. In the lower departments of the library of this college is deposited a fine collection of paintings, the donation of General Guise. There is also a fine statue of Mr. Locke, by Roubilliac.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE derives its name from the Earl of Pembroke, who was chancellor of the university at the time it was erected. It was founded by Thomas Tisdale, Esq; and Richard Whitwicke, B. D. The building consists of two courts; the first is a small quadrangle, but neat and uniform; the second court is an irregular area, and on one side of it stands the chapel; which is an elegant modern edifice of the Ionic order. In the garden, which is west of the chapel, is a pleasant common room, and a terrace-walk. The present members of this college are a master, fourteen fellows, and thirty scholars and exhibitioners; the whole number of students being usually about sixty.

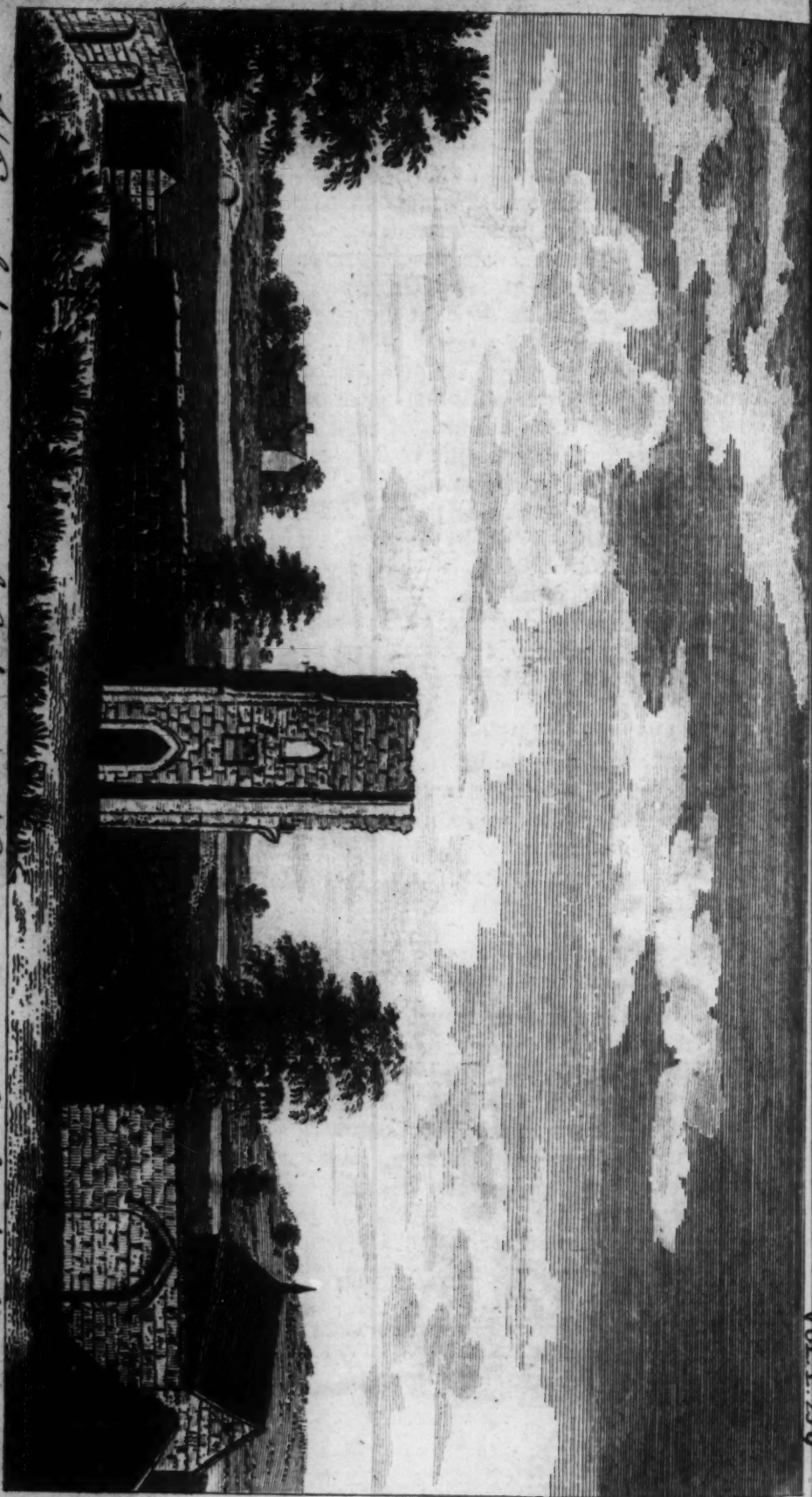
Having thus distinctly described the several Colleges of this celebrated university, we now proceed to the Halls, which are five in number. There were formerly a great number of these academical Halls, or *Hotels*, where professors or tutors resided: but since the colleges were founded, they have been reduced to the present number. These Halls are not endowed with estates and revenues as Colleges are; yet some of them have exhibitions, or yearly stipends given towards the maintenance of certain students therein. The students pay an annual rent to the principals, and live at their own charge, as at the inns of court at London.

ST. ALBAN HALL adjoins to Merton College on the East. It derives its name from Robert Abbôt de St. Albans, a citizen
of



A View of Peckwater Court, Christ Church College, Oxford.

Remains of the remains of Godstone Nursery in Daxford Church.



THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND. 259

of Oxford, who conveyed this tenement to the nuns of Littlemore in Oxfordshire, in the reign of King Henry the Third.

ST. EDMUND HALL is opposite to the east side of Queen's college, to which it is dependant, and has about twenty-five students. The buildings were completed, and other considerable improvements made by Dr. Shaw, the late principal.

NEW-INN HALL stands at the west end of Oxford. Opposite to this Hall is the gateway of a college of monks of the Augustine order, in which Erasmus resided two years. He left an elegant Latin poem on his manner of living there.

ST. MARY HALL is situated north of Oriel college, near the High Street of Oxford. It consists of one quadrangle, with a garden inclosed in the middle of it. It is formed by the principal's lodgings on the north, the hall and chapel on the south, and on the east and west by the chambers of the students.

MAGDALEN HALL is adjoining to Magdalen College, to which it is an appendage. The number of exhibitions given to this Hall supplies it with many members; and it has in it a large grammar-school as a nursery for Magdalen-college. The famous Lord Clarendon was educated at this Hall.

Before we quit Oxford, we shall observe, that at the north-side of the city is the RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, which was erected by Dr. Radcliffe's trustees, and is supported by voluntary contribution. Such an institution here has a natural tendency to be productive of very extensive advantages; as, while it relieves the Poor, it serves as a school to those who study the medical art.

G O D S T O W.

This village is about two miles north from Oxford, and here are the ruins of a famous nunnery, which was founded in the reign of King Stephen for Benedictine nuns. Fair Rosamond, who was seduced by King Henry II. spent much of her time with these nuns, before her amour with that Prince, and afterwards ended her days with them. She is said to have been the most beautiful woman of that age, and was the daughter of Lord Clifford, who was a great benefactor to this nunnery. There is great reason to believe that King Henry promised her marriage before he seduced her, though for political reasons he afterwards espoused Eleanor of Guienne. He had two sons by Rosamond, but that lady shook off all connexions with the King, after he brought his queen to England, and retired to Godstow nunnery,

where she spent the remainder of her days in penitence. Part of her monument in the church is still standing; and from the remains of the inscription, it appears that she lived to a considerable age; so that the story of her being secreted in a bower near Woodstock, with a view of securing her from the jealousy of Queen Eleanor, and of her being poisoned by that Princess, seems to have been a mere fable.

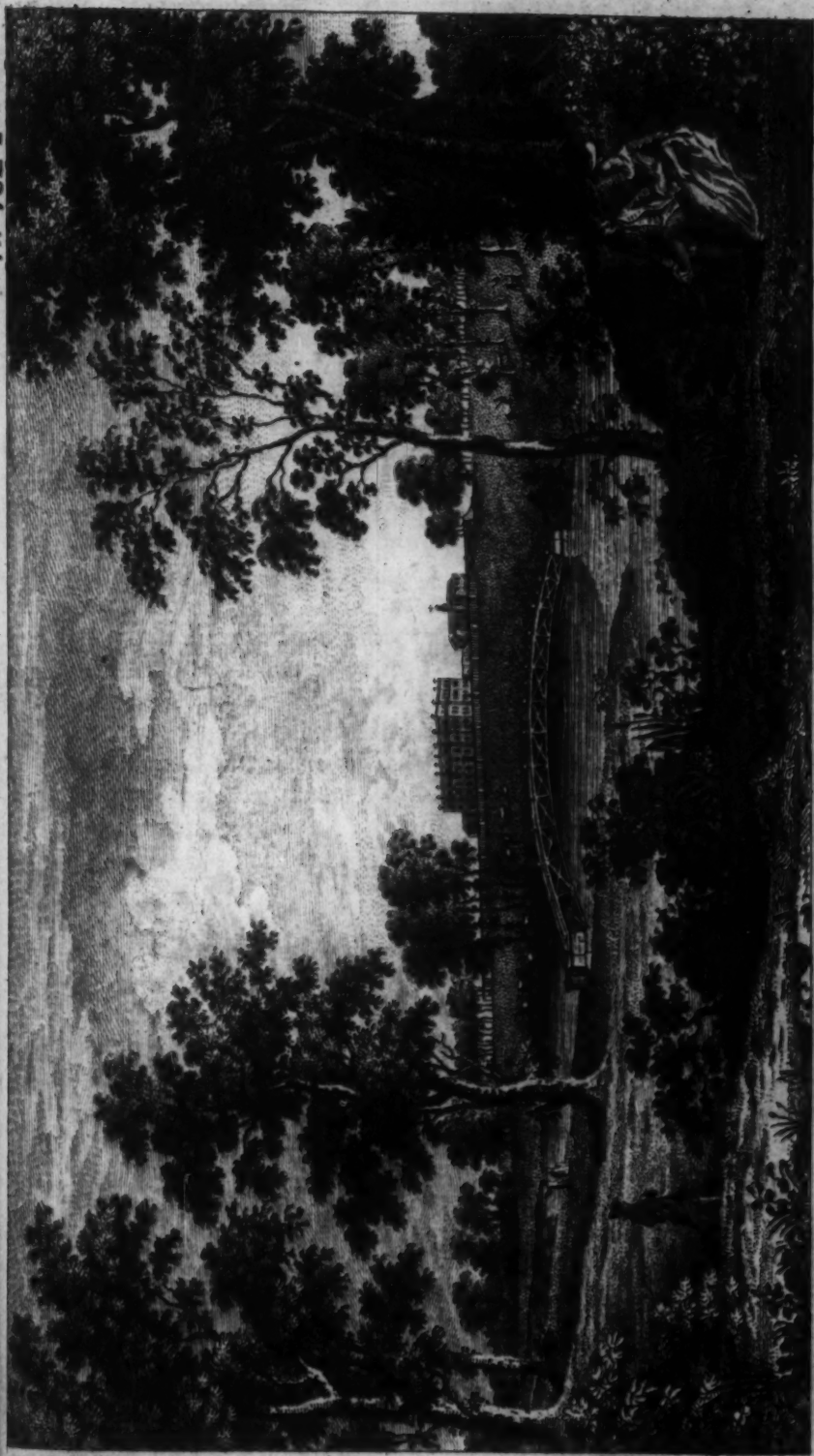
W O O D S T O C K.

This is a town of great antiquity in Oxfordshire, sixty-three miles from London. It is pleasantly situated, and a town-house has been lately built here; and the place is noted for its manufactory of fine wash leather gloves, and polished steel watch chains, which are esteemed all over Europe for the goodness of the workmanship. This is a corporation governed by the mayor, a recorder, four aldermen, and sixteen common-councilmen. It being on a great road, contains some very good inns; and there are here three alms-houses, and a school, which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Richard Cromwell, citizen and skinner of London. This town sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the burgeses and freemen. There is a house in this town which is said to have been the birth-place of our celebrated Poet Chaucer; but this seems to be an erroneous tradition, as there is the greatest reason to believe that he was born in London.

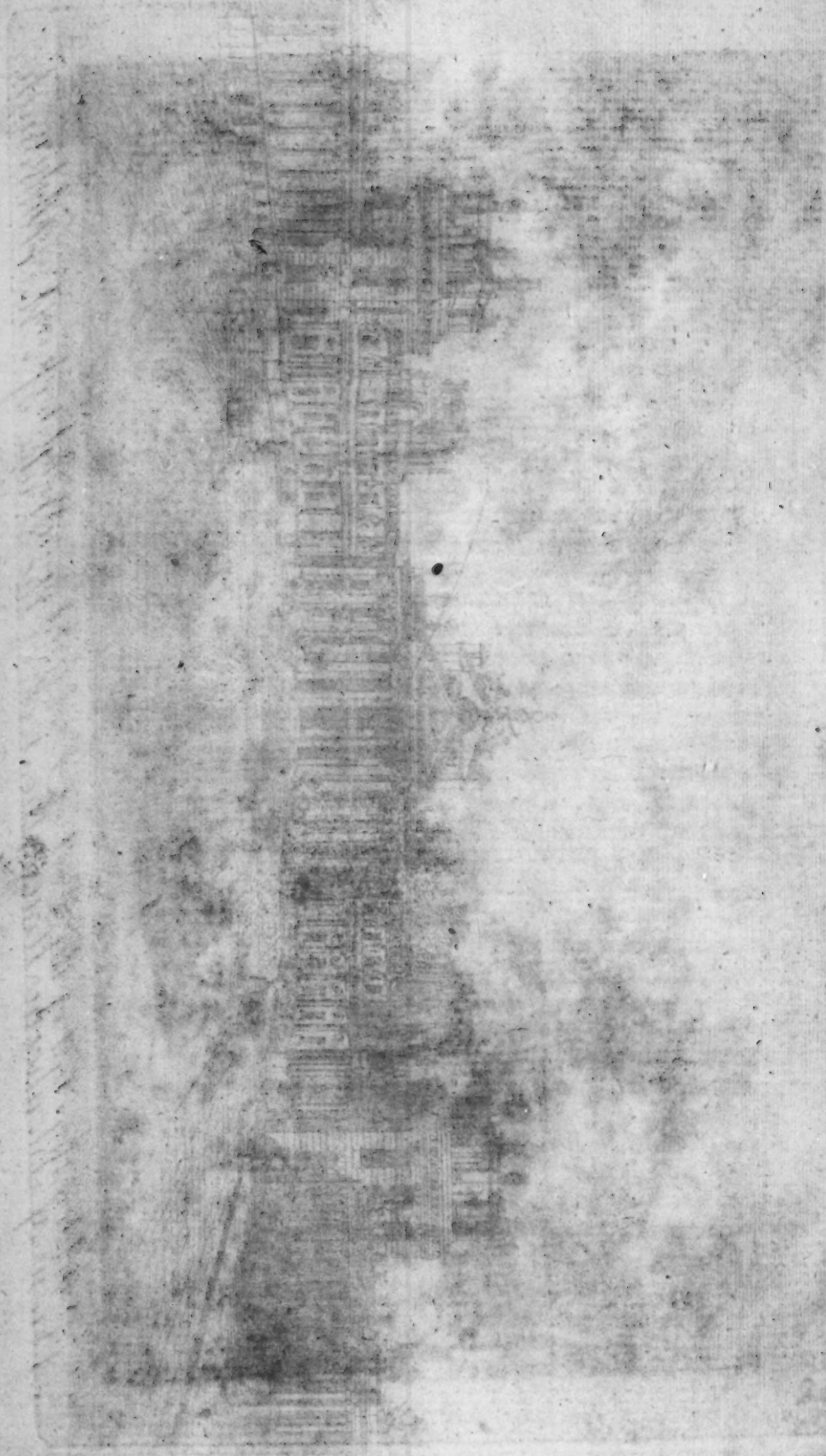
B L E N H E I M - H O U S E

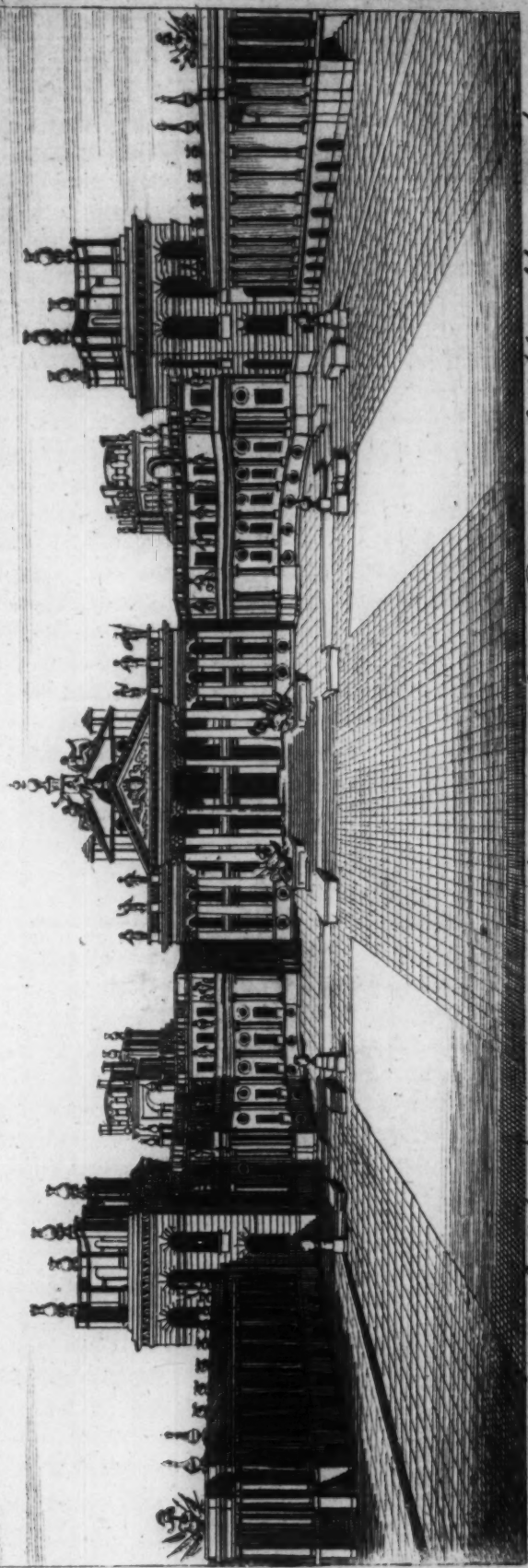
Is the magnificent seat of the Duke of Marlborough, and is one of the most stately edifices in the kingdom. It is situated a little to the west of Woodstock, about seven miles and a half from Oxford. In the reign of Queen Anne, the honour and manor of the town and hundred of Woodstock, were settled by parliament upon that illustrious general, John Duke of Marlborough, as a reward for his signal military services. A palace was also built for him at the public expence, and which, to commemorate the important victory which he obtained at Blenheim over the French and Bavarian forces, was called **BLENHEIM HOUSE**. It was built by Sir John Vanburgh, and is extremely magnificent, though many objections have been made to it by the connoisseurs in architecture.

From the town of Woodstock we enter the park, through a spacious portal of the Corinthian order; from whence a noble prospect is opened to the palace, the bridge, the lake with its valley,



Ditchley, the Seat of the Earl of Litchfield, near Woodstock, in Oxfordshire





A View of Blenheim House, the Seat of the Duke of Marlborough.

valley, and other beautiful scenes of the park. The house in particular, which we survey from this point obliquely, is nowhere viewed to greater advantage. The front is 138 feet from wing to wing: the roof is adorned with a stone balustrade, and statues. The south-front is not so highly ornamented; but on the pediment of it is a noble busto, larger than life, of Lewis XIV. taken from the citadel of Tournay. The common entrance is at the east-gate, which leads us into a quadrangle, consisting of offices. From thence, opposite the entrance, we proceed into the grand area,

In the center of the front, a superb portico, elevated on massy columns, admits us to the HALL; which is the height of the house, supported by Corinthian pillars. It is one of the largest and finest rooms in England. The cieling is adorned with an allegorical piece, painted by Sir James Thornhill, representing the Duke of Marlborough crowned by Victory, who points to the plan of the Battle of Blenheim. In the recesses, are well-finished casts from the antique statues of the Venus of Medicis, the Roman Slave, the *Athleta*, and Saltator. Over these is a series of paintings, called the Loves of the Gods, which are ascribed to Titian, and which were a present to the Duke from the King of Sardinia. In the arcades, on the right and left, is a fine arrangement of marble *termini*. And over the door that leads into the saloon, is a bust of the Great Duke of Marlborough, with a Latin inscription.

Strangers are usually conducted from the Hall into the apartments on the left; and in the *first* apartment, the hangings begin a suit of tapestry, representing the victories and achievements of Alexander the Great, which are continued in some succeeding rooms. There are also in this room paintings of St. Austin when young, and of Pope Gregory, both by Titian, of the woman taken in adultery by Rembrandt, and of Mary of Medicis by Rubens.

In the *second* apartment are some pieces of beautiful tapestry, the subjects taken from classical allegory: there are also some fine paintings in this room, one of which is an Holy Family by Rubens. In the *third* apartment is a picture of Rubens's family, painted by himself; portraits of the Duchess of Portsmouth, and Eleanor Gwyn, mistresses to Charles II. by Vandyke; and also Lord Stafford dictating to his secretary, by the same. This last is perhaps one of Vandyke's principal portrait-pieces. The earnestness of the speaker, and the attention of his amanuensis, heighten each other in the most expressive manners

In the *fourth* apartment, is a portrait of Rubens's wife, by Rubens ; of Catharine of Medicis, by the same ; and of Mary Queen of Scots, by Vandyke. In the *fifth* apartment, are four scripture pieces, a head, and an unfinished piece, all by Rubens ; two Madonnas, in different attitudes, by Titian ; Herod's cruelty, and Queen Esther, by Paul Veronese ; and some other pieces, by capital masters.

In the *sixth* apartment begins the tapestry of the Duke of Marlborough's battles, which are introduced by a most lively representation of a sutling booth, foragers, a battle, and a siege. Here are also three good paintings, one of which is a picture of Dobson, an English painter, in the reign of King James I. with his family, by himself. This last is an admirable piece, in the old correct manner. In the *seventh* apartment, the tapestry represents the battles of Wynendale, Bouchain, and Oudenarde, with the siege of Donawert. Here are also three fine pictures, one of which is Jupiter and Europa, by Paul Veronese. The *eighth* apartment contains the three Graces clothed, Venus and Adonis, and two other pieces by Rubens ; the Egyptian fortune-teller, by Angelo Carravaggio, and some other pictures of great merit.

The SALOON is nobly decorated, and is proportionable to the grandeur of the other rooms. The door-cases are of marble, and exceedingly magnificent ; the floor is also of marble. The walls are adorned with paintings of the different habits, and modes of dress of all nations, by La Guerre. The ceiling, which is executed by the same hand, is an allegorical piece, representing John Duke of Marlborough in the midst of his victories stopt by Peace, and Time reminding him of the rapidity of his own flight.

In the *ninth* apartment, the tapestry of the Duke's battles is continued with the battles of Blenheim, Malplaquet, and the siege of Lisle. In the *tenth* apartment, the tapestry contains the conclusion of the Duke's battles ; with a picture of Isaac blessing Jacob, by Rembrandt ; a portrait of John Duke of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller ; and a fruit-piece, by Michael Angelo. The *eleventh* apartment contains two pieces of still-life, by Maltese ; and a portrait of the Dutchess of Marlborough, by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

The LIBRARY is a most noble room, upwards of 183 feet in length, and proportionably broad and lofty. The Doric pilasters of marble, with the complete columns of the same, which support a rich entablature, the window-frames, the surrounding basement of black marble, and the stuccoed compartments

ments of the vaulted cieling, are in very high taste both with respect to design and finishing. It was originally intended as a gallery for paintings; but the late Duke of Marlborough has added utility to elegance, having furnished it with a noble collection of books, made by Lord Sunderland, his grace's father. Their number is said to amount to 24,000 volumes, which have been allowed to be worth 30,000*l.* and are said to be the best private collection in England. They are kept under gilt-wire lattices. On the top of the cases is a series of bronzes; and that no assistance to learning might be wanting, the late Duke placed here a fine Orrery and Planetarium.

At the upper end of the room is a highly finished statue of Queen Anne, by Rysbrack; and over the book-cases are copies of the Cartoons, by Le Blond; Lot and his daughters, by Rubens; and a Crucifixion, by Vandyke, with other paintings. From the bow-windows of the library we have a delightful prospect of the declivity descending to the river, and of the gradual ascent of the venerable groves which cover the corresponding hills.

The CHAPEL is one of the wings of this stately building, in which is a superb monument to the memory of the old Duke and Dutchess of Marlborough, by Rysbrack. They are represented with their two sons, who died young, as supported by Fame and History. Beneath in a basso-relievo, is the taking of Marshal Tallard.

The Gardens are spacious and agreeable; they originally consisted of about 100 acres, but the present Duke has made very large additions, and many elegant improvements. The noble descent to the water on the south and west, covered with flowering shrubs, and embellished with other natural beauties, are not easy to be paralleled. About the middle of the grand approach, is a magnificent *Bridge*, consisting chiefly of one arch, in the style of the Rialto at Venice. The water is formed into a spacious Lake, which covers the whole extent of a capacious valley, surrounded by an artificial declivity of a prodigious depth, and has been considered, both with regard to its accompaniments and extent, as the most capital piece of water in the kingdom.

The *Park* is between ten and eleven miles in circumference, and contains many delightful scenes. The lover of rural variety will be entertained here with every circumstance of beauty, which he can expect from diversified nature; from hills and vallies, woods and water. In this park originally stood a royal palace, and here Ethelred called a parliament. King Alfred,

Alfred, while he was resident here, translated *Boetius de Consolatione Philosophia*. Henry I. enclosed the park with a wall, the greater part of which is now remaining. His successor, Henry II. principally resided at this seat, and is said to have erected in the park a house, encompassed with a Labyrinth of extraordinary contrivance. We have before observed, that the story of Fair Rosamond's being secreted here, with a view of securing her from the rage and jealousy of Queen Eleanor, is a tradition not well founded; but it is not improbable, that while the amour between this Lady and that Prince subsisted, she might reside here. For it is said that the romantic retreat, which was called Fair Rosamond's Bower, was situated here in the valley, to the north-west of the Bridge, near a remarkable bath, or spring, called at present Rosamond's Well.

The grant of the park and manor of Woodstock, and of this palace, to the Duke of Marlborough, and his important services to the nation, are enumerated on the pedestal of a stately column, 130 feet in height, on the top of which is a statue of the Duke. This column is situated in the grand avenue to Blenheim-House, and part of the inscription, which is admirably well written, is as follows :

The Castle of BLENHEIM was founded by Q. Anne,
In the fourth Year of her Reign,
In the Year of the Christian Æra 1705:
A Monument designed to perpetuate the Memory of the
Signal Victory

Obtained over the French and Bavarians,
Near the Village of BLENHEIM,
On the Banks of the Danube,

By JOHN, Duke of MARLBOROUGH,
The Hero, not only of his Nation, but of his Age;
Whose Glory was equal in the Council and in the Field;
Who by Wisdom, Justice, Candour, and Address,
Reconciled various, and even opposite, Interests;

Acquired an Influence
Which no Rank, no Authority can give,
Nor any Force, but that of superior Virtue:
Became the fixed important Centre,
Which united in one common Cause,

The principal States of Europe;
Who by military Knowledge, and irresistible Valour,
In a long Series of uninterrupted Triumphs,
Broke the Power of France,

When

When raised the highest, when exerted the most;
 Rescued the Empire from Desolation;
 Asserted and confirmed the Liberties of EUROPE.

Blenheim House itself was finished at the public expence, but the Bridge, the Column just mentioned, and the portal contiguous to the town, were erected at the expence of Sarah, Dutchess Dowager of Marlborough.

D I T C H L E Y,

Is the noble seat of the Earl of Litchfield, situated about four miles from Blenheim, on the north-west. It is a lofty edifice, built of hewn stone, situated on a hill, which commands all the country, having Blenheim, Oxford, and the hills beyond it, in full view. The southern front is very elegant, and the offices, which form two beautiful wings, have a communication with the principal building by circular colonnades.

The *Hall* is elegantly decorated, and finely proportioned. The ceiling contains an assembly of the Gods, painted by Kent. Two of the compartments are filled with historical pieces from the *Æneid*, by the same hand; one of which represents *Æneas* meeting *Venus* his mother, in the wood, near Carthage; and the other, *Venus* presenting *Æneas* with the new armour. The sciences are introduced as ornaments, with busts of the poets properly disposed; and a statue of the *Venus de Medicis*. The chimney-piece is superb and lofty, decorated with a portrait of the late Earl of Litchfield, by Akerman.

The construction of the *Music Room* is well adapted to the use for which it is intended; and its elegance cannot fail to have the most pleasing effect on the spectator. There is a painting in this room of Rubens and his family hunting wild beasts; and some other good pictures. The *Dining Room* is executed with much simple elegance; and here are the capital portraits of Henry VIII. and Prince Henry, by Hans Holbein, executed with much strength and freedom. There are also some other good pictures here, particularly a family-piece of Charles I. with Charles II. at his knee, by Vandyke; and two fine portraits by Jonson.

The *Damask Bed-Chamber* is adorned with tapestry, representing boys squeezing grapes, and engaged in other sports; and contains some fine portraits. The *Tapestry Drawing Room* is also adorned with tapestry, representing the Muses and Apollo, a vintage, and Bacchanalian scenes; and there are also some good portraits here. From this apartment we have an entertaining view of a winding valley, with a serpentine canal, over

which is thrown an elegant Bridge from a design of Palladio's.

The cieling and walls of the *Saloon* are richly stuccoed; and in the middle compartment of the roof is a representation of Flora and the Zephyrs. Here is also an excellent antique of the Goddess Health, about thirty inches in height, purchased from Dr. Mead's collection. On its pedestal is a bass-relief of the head of Æsculapius, cut with remarkable boldness.

In the *Green Damask Drawing Room*, the chimney-piece is finely executed by *Scheemaker*, and finished with two small Corinthian columns. In the middle, is a landscape, by Wootton. Over the doors, are two striking pictures brought from Italy, of ruins, rocks, and cascades. Here is also a table of Italian marble, having a greenish ground interspersed with white veins.

In the *Gilt Drawing Room* is a full-length portrait of Charles II. and the Dutchess of Cleveland, by Lely; with two other portraits by Kneller, and two curious tables of Egyptian marble. In the *Velvet Bed-chamber* both the bed and hangings are of rich figured Genoa velvet. The chimney-piece is elegantly finished by *Scheemaker*, and adorned with a prospect of a ruin by Paul Panini.

The *Tapestry Room* is curiously ornamented in the Chinese taste. Here are two pieces of tapestry, one of which represents the Cyclops forging the armour of Æneas; the other, Neptune, with his proper attendants, giving directions about re-fitting a vessel, which has just been ship-wrecked. Over the chimney-piece, which is finely finished in white marble, is a capital picture of the Duke and Dutchess of York, and the Princesses Mary and Anne, by Sir Peter Lely; and over the doors are two masterly landscapes, by an Italian hand.

On the whole, this seat is a repository of valuable portraits, executed by the most eminent artists in that species of painting; Rubens, Vandyke, Sir Peter Lely, and our ingenious countryman and rival of Vandyke, Jonson. As a piece of architecture, this seat is inferior to none for the justness of its proportions, and the convenient disposition of its apartments. With regard to its furniture and decorations, it is finished with taste rather than with splendor; and adorned with that elegance which results from simplicity.

W H I T N E Y

Is a town in Oxfordshire of great antiquity, sixty-nine miles from London. It appears to have been a place of considerable repute before the time of William I. and increased in the number of inhabitants so much afterwards, that it received summonses

ses to send members to parliament in the reign of Edward I. but that privilege has been long since taken away. The town chiefly consists of one street, about a mile in length; and has a great manufacture of rugs and blankets, and the latter are for their whiteness preferred to those made at any other place. It is computed, that seven thousand packs of wool are wrought into blankets here every year; and besides five hundred weavers, there are seldom fewer than three thousand persons employed in carding and spinning, with many others who dress the goods afterwards. The town is populous. Here is a free-school, which was founded and endowed by Mr. Henry Box, a Druggist in London, with a good library adjoining: the grocers company in London are governors of this school. There is also a charity-school here for fifty children, and an hospital for six poor blanket-makers widows.

BURFORD is an antient market-town, in the same county, and eighteen miles from Oxford. It has a great market for saddles; and on a heath near it, called the Seven Downs, there are frequent horse-races.

CHIPPING NORTON

Is a place of great antiquity, and appears to have been a market-town in the time of the Saxons. Roman coins have been frequently found here; and the church is a building after a curious model, in which there are monuments, with so many names of merchants on brass plates, as shew it to have been once a place of great trade. This town is pleasantly situated, and formerly sent members to parliament, but that privilege is now taken away.

In the neighbourhood of this town are what are called *Roll-ric's stones*, or *Roul-rich stones*, which some suppose to be the remains of an old British temple, whilst others imagine they were set up in memory of Rollo, the famous Danish Commander. They are very lofty, and placed in a circular direction, with one taller than the other, which is vulgarly called the King.

At a little distance from Chipping-Norton is a village named *Hook-Norton*, which is said to have been an antient seat of the Saxon kings. About the beginning of the tenth century there was a great battle fought here between the Danes and the English, in which the latter were defeated; and there are here several barrows, or sepulchral monuments of the antient Britons. Camden says, this place was formerly inhabited by such clowns

and churls, that it was from that circumstance called *Hog's-Norton*, a name which is now frequently given to it.

B A N B U R Y

Is a town of great antiquity, and pleasantly situated on the river Cherwell. It is seventy-four miles from London, and twenty-three from Oxford. It is a pretty large town, with a handsome church, a meeting-house, a free-school, and two charity-schools. The trade of the town is considerable; and great quantities of cheese are made here, which is noted for its goodness. The place has also been famous for a particular kind of cakes, called Banbury cakes. The lands in the neighbourhood are remarkable for their fertility. Several remarkable battles have been fought near this place, and at a little distance from hence is an antient castle called Broughton-castle, built before the reign of King Henry the Sixth.

HANWELL-PARK, near Banbury, is the seat of Sir Jonathan Cope, Bart. There is here a clock which is esteemed a great curiosity. It moves by water, and shews the time by the rising of a new gilded sun for every hour, moving in a hemisphere of wood, each sun having in its center a figure for the hour. For instance, One, which, ascending half way to the zenith of the arch, shews it to be a quarter past One, at the zenith half an hour; whence descending half way towards the horizon, three quarters; and at last absconding under it, there arises another gilded sun above the horizon at the other side of the arch, bearing the figure 2; and so of the rest.

DEDDINGTON is a place of great antiquity, and sent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward I. and III. but never since. The town is small, though it is pretty populous.

BICESTER is thirteen miles from Oxford, and is a long straggling town, chiefly remarkable for excellent malt liquor.—Near this town is an old castle, called Alchester, which is situated on the Roman highway, called *Akeman-street*. That this was a place of great strength, and even a flourishing city, is supposed to be evident from the vast number of coins that have been dug up, and because it is no uncommon thing for the husbandmen to break their ploughs against the ruins of the foundation.

THAME, or TAME, is so called from the river of that name, which runs by the town. It is forty-six miles from London, and the situation is extremely pleasant; and being on an eminence, the prospect over the neighbouring country is delightful. It is a large town, with a fine church, and one great street, in the middle whereof is the market-place, which is well furnished
with

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with live cattle, and all kinds of provisions, and the river is navigable to it by barges. It has an handsome free-school, and an alms-house.

DORCHESTER, which is forty-nine miles from London, was a town of note among the Romans, and afterwards a bishop's see; but it is now an inconsiderable place. It has, however, a very large old church, and a good stone bridge over the Thames.

HENLEY UPON THAMES.

This is supposed to be the oldest town in Oxfordshire, and is pleasantly situated on the side of the Thames, which is navigable to it by barges. It is a corporation, governed by a warden, burgesses, and other officers. The buildings are generally good; and here are two free-schools, one a grammar-school, founded and endowed by King James the First, and the other called the Blue-coat school, founded by the Lady Elizabeth Periam, for teaching and cloathing poor children. Here is also an alms-house, founded by Dr. Longland, Bishop of Lincoln; and a wooden bridge over the Thames, where, it is said, there was antiently one of stone. The greater part of the inhabitants of this town are maltsters, mealmen, and bargemen, who enrich themselves and the neighbourhood, by sending corn, malt, and wood to London; and it is said that 300 cart-loads of malt and corn are often sold here on a market-day.

GREAT MARLOW

Is a borough-town in Buckinghamshire, thirty-one miles from London, which derives its name from the marly soil in which it stands. It is a considerable town, with a bridge over the Thames, not far from the place where it receives the Wycombe river; and has a handsome church and town-hall. The chief manufacture of the town is bone-lace, but it is of more account for the navigation carried on by the Thames for meal, malt, and beech timber. There are several corn and paper-mills in its neighbourhood, particularly on the little river Loddon; and also three remarkable mills called the Temple Mills, or the brass mills for making kettles, pans, &c. besides a mill for making thimbles; and another for pressing oil from rape and flax seed,

HIGH

HIGH WICCOMB.

This town is thirty-two miles from London, in the road to Oxford. It is supposed to derive its name from a small stream, which glides through the low grounds near this place into the Thames. The town has on each side of it pleasant hills shaded with woods, and may for antiquity, extent, and beauty, compare with the greatest and best in the county. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, common-council, recorder, and other officers. It has two principal streets, one of which is spacious, and well-built with good brick houses, and full of large inns. Queen Elizabeth gave lands for the maintenance of a free-grammar-school in this town. The assizes are sometimes held here, and this town sends two members to parliament.

This place is supposed to have been a Roman station; for in the year 1724, a Roman pavement was discovered by some workmen, who were digging in a neighbouring meadow belonging to Lord Shelburne. It was about nine feet square, and consisted of stones of various colours, wrought with exquisite art; but the largest was not broader than the square of a die.

BEACONSFIELD is another market-town in the road to Oxford, and contains some good inns, but has nothing in it that is very remarkable.

AMERSHAM is an antient borough-town, situated in a valley between two woody hills, near the river Coln. It consists of two streets, a long one and a short one, which cross each other at right angles in the middle. In the area where these streets intersect each other, stands the church, which is the best rectory in the county. Here is a handsome town-hall and a free-school.

MONK'S RISBOROUGH is only remarkable for the antiquities in its neighbourhood; particularly an old fortification, called Bellinus's castle; and some trenches and fortifications supposed to have been made when the Romans were in Britain. And not far from Monk's Risborough, there is a high steep chalky hill, on the south-west side of which there is the figure of a cross, an hundred feet long, formed by trenches cut into the chalk about two feet deep, which is supposed to be the work of the Saxons.—Near Monk's Risborough is *Prince's Risborough*, where on the top of a hill are the traces of a camp; and it is said that thirteen counties may be seen from hence.

AYLES-

A Y L E S B U R Y.

This is a very antient town, forty-four miles from London, and stands on a rising ground, at the east end of a rich valley, called *Aylesbury Vale*, which feeds incredible numbers of cattle and sheep, remarkable for their size and fine fleeces; and extends almost from Thame on the edge of Oxfordshire, to Leighton in Bedfordshire. The town-hall of Aylesbury is an handsome fabric, in which the county assizes and sessions are often held, and stands in the middle of the market-place, which is a large handsome square. This is a neat, compact, and populous town, the best and largest in Buckinghamshire, and consists of several fine streets. It sends two members to parliament.

In the reign of William the Norman Aylesbury was a royal manor, several parts of which that King gave to his favourites, to hold of him by the following odd tenure; namely, that they should find litter or straw for the King's bed and chambers, and provide him three eels in winter, and three green geese in summer, besides herbs for his chamber; and this they were to do thrice a year, if the King came hither so often.

Some of the principal public edifices in this town were erected at the expence of Sir John Baldwin, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Henry VIII. He was otherwise a great benefactor to the town, and had a causeway made from the market-place towards London for the distance of three miles, at his own cost.

B U C K I N G H A M.

This is the county town, and is sixty miles from London. It is washed on all sides but the north with the river Ouse, over which it has three stone bridges. The castle of the town, now in ruins, was built in the middle of it, and divides it into two parts. In the north part stands the town-hall, a very handsome convenient structure, in which are kept the weights and measures of the county. This town was for many years a staple for wool, and several of its wool-halls are yet standing; but that trade is now lost here. It is very populous; and the church, which is in the west part of the town, is a very large building, and, when its spire was standing, might be reckoned the best in the whole county, and was as high as most in England; but in 1698 was in part blown down, and has never since been rebuilt. In the year 1725, many of the old buildings in this town were destroyed by a fire, which burnt out 138 families, and did near 33,000 pounds damage. The county-gaol was kept in the castle

castle here, till it fell to decay; but a new one has been built; and by a late act the summer-assizes, which had been sometimes held at Aylesbury, are always to be held here. This town sends two members to parliament.

S T O W,

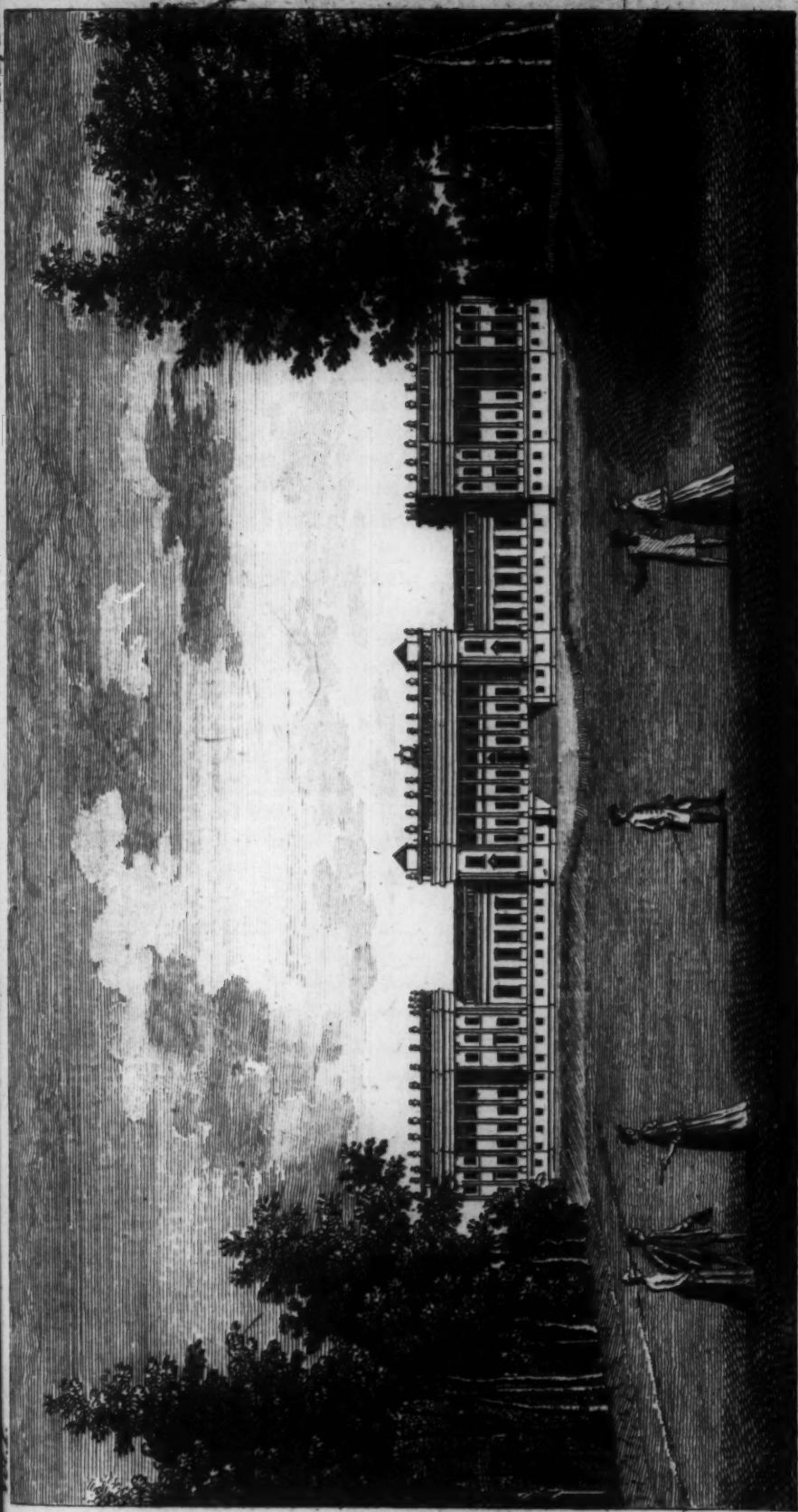
The celebrated seat of Earl Temple, is about two miles north-west from Buckingham, well situated in a fine spot, which is much more beautiful than any of the surrounding country. The House is large; it extends in one line of front nine hundred feet. A grand flight of steps, designed by Signor Borra, ornamented with balustrades, leads us to the *Saloon*, which is a grand apartment hung with tapestry, representing the functions of the cavalry. The dimensions of this room are 43 feet by 22; the furniture is crimson, ornamented with two marble busts, a rich cabinet, and fine china jars.

The *Hall* is a spacious room, 36 feet by 22 and half, designed and painted by Kent. Its cieling is enriched with the signs of the Zodiac, and the walls are adorned with festoons of flowers, &c. Over the chimney is a curious piece of alto relievo, the story of which is Darius's tent. Here are also eleven marble busts properly disposed.

The *Dining Room* is a well-proportioned apartment, 43 feet by 25, in which are some fine paintings, particularly a dancing at the Duke of Mantua's marriage, by Tintoret, a landscape by Claude Lorraine, the marriage at Cana by Bassan, and Moses burying the Egyptian by Pouffin. There are also in this room three pieces of statuary that deserve attention; a Narcissus, whose attitude is easy, and the figure elegant; Vertumnus and Pomona, by Scheemacher; and a Venus and Adonis by Delvaux. The Venus is very delicate and beautiful.

The *Grand Stair Case* is ornamented with iron work, and enriched with three cieling pieces, painted by Sculter; namely, Justice and Peace, Fame and Victory, Plenty and Constancy.

The *Chapel* is wainscotted with cedar, and has a gallery of the same, hung with crimson velvet. Its dimensions are 37 feet by 20 feet 10 inches, and 26 feet high. Over the communion table is a fine painting of the resurrection, by Tintoret; and over that is the King's arms, richly carved and ornamented. Above the cedar wainscot, are the following paintings at full length, viz. Moses and Aaron, St. Peter and St. Paul, the four Evangelists, the ascension, baptism, and the salutation of the Virgin Mary. The cieling is the same as in the chapel royal at



Front View of Stony House, the Seat of Earl Temple.

Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

at St. James's, and the cedar wainscot enriched with elegant carving, by Gibbons.

In Lady Temple's *Dressing-room*, the hangings, chairs, and window-curtains, are of fine printed cotton; and there is here a fine old japan cabinet, ornamented with china jars; and a fine view of Pekin over the chimney-piece, by Iölili.

In her ladyship's *Bed-chamber*, the hangings, chairs, &c. are the same as the *Dressing-room*; with a picture of a Chinese Temple over the chimney, by Iölili.

The *Chinese Closet* is the repository of her ladyship's valuable china. The japan and ornaments were a present from the late Prince and Princess of Wales. From hence we enter a colonnade adorned with paintings by Sclater. It is embellished with exotics and flowering shrubs. The *Grenville Room* is 29 feet 8 inches by 26 feet 3 inches, and 19 feet 4 inches high, is hung with green velvet, and ornamented with portraits at full length of the Grenville family.

The *Gallery* is a magnificent apartment, 74 feet by 25 feet, and 20 feet high, with gobelin tapestry chairs, and is hung with three fine pieces of tapestry, viz. A beautiful representation of a Farm, A Dutch Wake from Teniers, and A Dutch Fishery, from the same. The two chimnies have pictures of Roman Ruins over each, by Panini. The four doors have rural pictures over each, viz. Plowing, Reaping, Hay-making, and Sheep-shearing. And a rich cabinet at each end containing books; and 10 marble busts of Roman Emperors.

In the *Waiting-Room* are some fine pictures, particularly Cymon and Iphigenia, by Guerehino; gold pouring into the mouth of Crassus, by Pouffin; and a very curious piece by Albert Durer, the subject Joan of Arc musing on her expedition.

In the private *Drawing-Room* is a fine picture of Samson by Rembrandt, the expression of which is very great; a landscape by Claude Lorraine; Rubens's first wife, by Rubens; Sileno, by the same; the Duke of Sully, by Vandyke; Samson and Dalilah, by Guerehino; and a portrait of Oliver Cromwell, by Old Richardson.

The *State Gallery* is seventy feet long, and twenty-two high, and is a very beautiful room. It is hung with Brussels tapestry, representing the triumphs of Diana, Mars, Venus, Bacchus, and Ceres. The ceiling is stuccoed in compartments, and ornamented with medallions, and paintings in obscura.

The *State Bed-chamber* is extremely magnificent, the bed and ceiling by Signor Borra; and is finely furnished with crimson damask and gold ornaments. The *State Closet* is hung with blue damask, finely ornamented with carving and gilding; out of which we go into a colonnade, where is a beautiful view of

the gardens and the country. The passage is ornamented with marble busts.

The GARDENS at Stow have long been considered as the most magnificent in England, and have always been admired by persons of taste; and have therefore a natural claim to a particular description in our Work. The southern entrance of the gardens is formed by two pavilions of the Doric order, designed by Sir John Vanbrugh; the walls of which are adorned with paintings, in fresco, the stories taken from Pastor Fido. Almost the first striking object that occurs in the gardens, is, an obelisk near seventy feet high, designed for a jet de eau, and placed in the middle of a large octagon piece of water. At some distance we perceive two rivers, which are at last united, and enter the octagon in one stream. Over one of these is a Palladian bridge. From this point a *Gothic Temple*, 70 feet in height, appears on the top of a hill. On the left is an Egyptian pyramid; from whence we are conducted to the Cold Bath. Here we have a prospect of a natural cascade, falling from the last-mentioned octagon, in three distinct sheets, into an extensive lake. One of the sheets passes through the arch of an artificial ruin, covered with ever-greens.

These noble gardens contain a great variety of elegant edifices and decorations. The building called the *Hermitage* is built of rough stone, and agreeably situated in a rising wood on the banks of the lake; not far from which are the statues of Cain and Abel, finely executed. The *Temple of Venus* is a square building, with colonnade wings. It was designed by Kent, and is painted with the story of Hellenore and Malbecco, from Spenser's *Fairy Queen*. The room is adorned with a naked Venus; and the smaller compartments with a variety of intrigues. Upon the frieze is the following motto from Catullus:

Nunc amet qui nonquam amavit;

Quique amavit, nunc amet.

Let him love now, who never lov'd before:

Let him, who always lov'd, now love the more.

Underneath the *Belvidere*, or Gibbes's Building, is an ice-house; at some distance from which are the Roman Boxers, admirably copied. Here are also two *Pavilions*, one of which is used as a dwelling-house; and the other is ornamented with the statues of Julius Cæsar, Cicero, Portia, and Livia.

The *Egyptian Pyramid*, which was before-mentioned, and which is sixty feet in height, has a Latin inscription to the following purpose: "To the memory of Sir John Vanbrugh, by whom



How House from the Equestrian Statue in the Park.

“whom several of the buildings in these gardens were designed, “Lord Cobham hath erected this pyramid.”

In a field, inclosed with a fence of stakes, after the military manner, are the statues of Hercules and Antæus. *St. Augustine's Cave* is a monastic cell, built with moss and roots: within is a straw couch, and several Latin inscriptions, in the stile of the old Monkish Latin verse. The *Temple of Bacchus* is an edifice of brick, the inside of which is adorned with Bacchanalian scenes, painted by Nollkins; and here are two vases in a very masterly taste. The *Saxon Temple* is an altar situated in an open grove, about which the seven Saxon Deities, which denominate the several days of the week, were formerly placed; but these have been since removed to the Gothic Temple.

Nelson's Seat is an elegant little building, from whence there is an agreeable open prospect. In the inside are some paintings, with inscriptions. At the head of the canal, opposite the north front of the house, is an equestrian statue of King George I. in compleat armour. There is also a statue of his late Majesty, King George II. raised on a Corinthian pillar. And in a rural amphitheatre is a statue of Queen Caroline, erected on four Ionic columns.

Dido's Cave is a retired dark building, with this inscription from Virgil:

*Speluncam Dido, Dux et Trojanus, eandem,
Deveniunt.*

“Repairing to the same dark Cave are seen,

“The Trojan Hero, and the Tyrian Queen.”

The *Rotunda*, which was designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, is supported by Ionic pillars. Within, is a statue of Venus de Medicis on a pedestal of blue marble. Scarcely any object in the whole garden shews itself to more advantage, than this structure; or makes a more beautiful figure, from several different points of prospect.

The *Sleeping Parlour* is a square building, with an elegant Ionic portico, situated in a close wood, with this Epicurean inscription: *Cum omnia sint in incerto, fave tibi*; i. e. Since all things are uncertain, indulge thyself. The *Witch House* is a kind of hut, on the walls of which is roughly painted the midnight merriment of hags.

The *Temple of antient Virtue* is a compleat and beautiful rotunda of the Ionic order, designed by Kent. Over each door on the outside, is this motto: *Priscæ Virtuti*; to ancient Virtue. It is adorned with statues of Lycurgus, Socrates, Homer, and Epaminondas, under which are Latin inscriptions to the following purpose.

LYCURGUS,

LYCURGUS, having planned with consummate wisdom a constitution, secured against every inroad of corruption, this truly great Father of his Country bequeathed to his citizens a lasting liberty; luxury being kept out by the disuse of wealth.

SOCRATES, innocent amidst corruption, an encourager of good men, a worshipper of one God, this wisest of men delivered Philosophy from an idle scholastic life, and introduced her into society, to amend mankind.

HOMER, the first as well as best of Poets, whose genius subservient wholly to the cause of virtue, instructed mankind, by a language universally known, in the godlike arts of daring and suffering heroically.

EPAMINONDAS, by whose courage, prudence, and moderation, the Theban commonwealth obtained liberty and empire, an happy establishment, as well civil as military; and by whose death it lost them.

Over one of the doors of this edifice is also the following inscription: "Charum esse civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, diligere, gloriosum est: metui vero, & in odio esse, invidiosum, detestabile, imbecillum, caducum;" i. e. To be dear to our country, to deserve well of the state, to be honoured, revered, and loved, is truly glorious; but to be dreaded and hated of mankind is base, detestable, weak, impolitick.

Over the other door is as follows: "Justitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum sit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in patria maxima est. Ea vita via est in cælum, et in hunc cætum eorum qui jam vixerunt;" i. e. An affection for our friends and relations is amiable; but for our country, divine. This is the path to future happiness, and the assembly of those who have already lived.

From the Temple of *Antient Virtue*, you look down on a very beautiful winding hollow lawn, scattered with single trees in the happiest manner, through the stems of which, the water breaks to the eye in a stile admirably picturesque. Near to this temple in a thicket, is the *Temple of Modern Virtue*, satirically represented in ruins.

The gardens continue extremely various and beautiful, till you come to the Princess Amelia's arch, from which you at once break upon a scenery truly enchanting; being more like a rich picturesque composition, than the effect of an artful management of ground and buildings. The lawn from the arch, falls in various waves to the water, at the bottom of the vale: it is scattered with trees, whose spreading tops unite, and leave the eye an irregular command among their stems of a double wave of the lake. The smooth green of the lawn, obscured in some places

places by the shade of the trees, in others illumined by the sun, forms an object as beautiful as can be imagined; nor can any thing be more picturesque than the water appearing through the fore-ground of the scene, thus canopied with trees. A break in the grove presents a compleat picture above these beautiful varieties of wood and water: first, the Palladian bridge, backed by a rising ground scattered with wood; and at the top of that a castle. The objects of the whole scene, though various, and some distant, are most happily united to form a compleat view, equally magnificent and pleasing; indeed it is the richest that is seen at Stow.

The *Palladian Bridge* is adorned with several antique marble bustos. The roof on the side facing the water, is supported by Ionic pillars. The back wall is covered with a fine piece of Alto Relievo, which represents the four quarters of the world bringing their various products to Britannia. Here are also paintings of Sir Walter Raleigh with a map of Virginia; and of William Penn, presenting the laws of Pennsylvania.

After crossing the Serpentine River, we pass into the *Elysian Fields*, a most delicious retreat, consisting of beautiful waves of close shaven grass; breaking among woods, and scattered with single trees; bounded on one side by thick groves, and shelving on the other down to the water, which winds in a very happy manner; and commanding from several spots, various landscapes of the distant parts of the gardens.

The *Temple of British Worthies*, is a semi-circular wall, adorned with the following bustos and inscriptions:

SIR THOMAS GRESHAM, who by the honourable profession of a merchant having enriched himself and his country, for carrying on the commerce of the world, built the Royal Exchange.

IGNATIUS JONES, who, to adorn his country, introduced and rivalled the Greek and Roman architecture.

JOHN MILTON, whose sublime and unbounded genius equalled a subject that carried him beyond the limits of the world.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, whose excellent genius opened to him the whole heart of man, all the mines of fancy, all the stores of nature; and gave him power, beyond all other writers, to move, astonish, and delight mankind.

JOHN LOCKE, who, best of all philosophers, understood the powers of the human mind, the nature, end, and bounds of civil government; and with equal courage and sagacity, refuted the slavish systems of usurped authority over the rights, the consciences, and the reason of mankind.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON, whom the God of nature made to comprehend his works; and from simple principles, to discover
the

the laws never known before, and to explain the appearance, never understood, of this stupendous universe.

SIR FRANCIS BACON, LORD VERULAM, who, by the strength and light of a superior genius, rejecting vain speculation, and fallacious theory, taught to pursue truth, and improve philosophy by the certain method of experiment.

KING ALFRED, the mildest, justest, most beneficent of kings; who drove out the Danes, secured the seas, protected learning, established juries, crushed corruption, guarded liberty, and was the founder of the English constitution.

EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES, the terror of Europe, the delight of England; who preserved unaltered, in the height of glory and fortune, his natural gentleness and modesty.

QUEEN ELIZABETH, who confounded the projects, and destroyed the power that threatened to oppress the liberties of Europe; took off the yoke of ecclesiastical tyranny, restored religion from the corruptions of Popery; and, by a wise, a moderate, and a popular government, gave wealth, security, and respect to England.

KING WILLIAM III. who, by his virtue, and constancy, having saved his country from a foreign master, by a bold and generous enterprize, preserved the liberty and religion of Great Britain.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH, a valiant soldier, and an able statesman; who, endeavouring to rouse the spirit of his master, for the honour of his country, against the ambition of Spain, fell a sacrifice to the influence of that court, whose arms he had vanquished, and whose designs he had opposed.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, who, through many perils, was the first of Britons that ventured to sail round the globe; and carried into unknown seas and nations the knowledge and glory of the English name.

JOHN HAMPDEN, who, with great spirit and consummate abilities, began a noble opposition to an arbitrary court, in defence of the liberties of his country; supported them in parliament, and died for them in the field.—There are also in this temple busts of Mr. Pope, and Sir John Barnard.

In the niche of a pyramid is placed a Mercury, with these words inscribed, *Campos ducit ad Elysios*; i. e. Leads to the Elysian fields. And below this figure is fixed a square of black marble, on which are the following lines:

*Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi,
Quique pii vates, et Phœbo digna locuti,
Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,
Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.*

Heroes

The Serpentine River and Grotto in Stow Gardens.



View of the two Shell Temples in Stone Gardens.



Heroes are here, who for their country bled,
And bards whose pure and sacred verse is read;
Those who, by arts invented, life improv'd,
And public merit, made their mem'ries lov'd.

The *Chinese House* is situated, after the Chinese manner, upon a large piece of water. We enter it by a bridge, decorated with Chinese vases. It is a square building, with four lattices, and covered with sail-cloth. The windows and roof, together with its cool situation on the lake, afford us a just specimen of the manner of living in a hot country. Within is the figure of a Chinese lady asleep. The outside of the house is painted in the Chinese taste; and the inside is India japan work.

The *Grotto*, situated at the head of the Serpentine river, is furnished with a great number of looking-glasses, both on the walls and cielings, fixed in frames of pilaster-work, stuck with shells and flints. It has a marble statue of Venus, on a pedestal adorned in the same manner. On each side is a pavilion; one of which is ornamented with shells, the other with broken flints and pebbles.

The *Ladies Temple* is supported by arches, with Venetian windows. The inside is beautified with the following paintings by Sclater. On the right side, Ladies employed in needle and shell-work. On the opposite side, Ladies employed in painting and music.

The late Anne, Viscountess Cobham, erected in these gardens a fluted column, to the memory of her husband Lord Cobham; on one side of which are the following lines:

Quatenus nobis denegatum diu vivere,

Relinquamus aliquid,

Quo nos vixisse testemur.

As we cannot live long,

Let us leave something behind us,

To shew that we have lived.

Passing by this column, from whence is a view through the wood of the temple of Concord, you come by winding walks to the banquetting-room, from whence is a fine varied prospect; and the Corinthian arch appears to advantage. From hence you are conducted to the temple of *Concord* and *Victory*, and in the way, pass a most beautiful winding hollow lawn; the brows of all the surrounding slopes, finely spread with woods, thick in some places, and others scattered so as to open for the eye to follow the bends of the lawn, which is every where different. The temple is excellently situated on the brow of one of the hills: it is a very fine building; an oblong totally surrounded by a colonnade of well-proportioned pillars. The architecture is light

light and pleasing. There is a room here, ornamented with a statue of liberty, and several medallions in the walls.

From hence the walk leads next to a sequestered winding vale, finely surrounded with wood; and a small water takes its course through it, broken by woody islands, and a various obscured shore. At the head, the grotto of shells looks down on the water in a pleasing manner; and must be particularly beautiful when the woods and water are illuminated; which they are when Lord Temple sups in it. Here is a statue of Venus rising from the bath; a pleasing statue, and the attitude naturally taken.

The *Imperial Closet* is a square room, in which are painted in fresco, the Emperors Titus, Trajan, and Antoninus; each of whom is respectively distinguished by a memorable saying of his own, fixed over him, as follows:

Imp. Titus Cæs. Vespasian.

Diem peridi—I have lost a day.

Imp. N. Trajan Cæs. Au.

Pro me: si merear, in me.

For me—if I deserve it, against me*.

(Alluding to his sword.)

Imp. Marcus Aurelius Cæsar Antoninus.

Ita regnes imperator, ut privatus regi te velis.

So govern being an Emperor, as you would wish
be governed, if a subject.

A grand terrace, near three hundred feet long leads us to the *Temple of Friendship*; which is a well proportioned structure of the Doric order. The emblem of friendship over the door, those of justice and liberty, with the rest of the decorations, are elegantly touched. Britannia is seated upon the cieling. On one side are exhibited the glory of her annals, the reigns of Edward III. and Queen Elizabeth. On the other is offered the reign of * * * *, which she covers with her mantle, and seems unwilling to accept.—Here are also the busts of the late Lord, and his illustrious friends; viz. Frederick Prince of Wales; the Earls of Chesterfield, Westmorland, and Marchmont; the Lords Bathurst and Gower; the present Earls of Chatham and Temple; and the late Lord Lyttleton.

There is likewise in these gardens a monument erected to the memory of Congreve; the embellishments of which are emblematical of that celebrated Poet's comic genius. And also another monument erected by Lord Cobham, in honour of his
nephew

* This noble sentiment of Trajan's, that the sword of justice ought to be employed *for* him if he governed well, but *against* him if he governed ill, is what few modern Princes would have the magnanimity to assent to.

nephew Captain Thomas Grenville, who was killed bravely fighting against the French, in a fleet commanded by Admiral Anson.

There are in STOW GARDENS so great a variety of beauties, that the spectator, whose mind is capable of being moved, either with grace or majesty, cannot, without reluctance, leave a place so properly calculated to inform the judgment, and interest the fancy; where art appears without affectation, and nature without extravagance.

STONE Y STRATFORD.

This town is supposed to derive its name from the stoney street that runs through it, and the ford where travellers used formerly to pass the Ouse. It is distant from London in the road to Chester, fifty-two miles. The town is rather large, and the houses in general are built of free stone, which is dug from a quarry very near the town. The Ouse is now crossed by a stone bridge at the ford, and sometimes swells so high, that it breaks into the neighbouring fields with great violence, especially on that side next the town, the bank on the other side being somewhat higher. This town has two parish churches, and also two chapels, and a small charity school. In 1743, a fire broke out here, which consumed one hundred and fifty houses, but that damage has been since repaired, and the town in general makes an handsome appearance. The chief manufacture of the place is bone-lace.

FENNY STRATFORD is an ancient market-town, in which there are many good inns, and several fine houses. It is at present a pleasant and a thriving town.

NEWPORT PAGNELL is a well built and populous market-town, and has two stone bridges over the Ouse. It is a kind of staple for bone-lace, of which, it is said, more is made in this town, and in the neighbouring villages, than in any other town in the kingdom.

OULNEY is but an inconsiderable town, and has hardly any thing remarkable in it besides its church, which has a very fine spire.

WINSLOW is a small town, surrounded with woods, but has nothing in it remarkable.---In the manor of Crendon, near this town, there was an abbey, or priory, for regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, called *Noctele*, or *Nuttley*. It was built and endowed by Walter Giffard, the second Earl of Buckingham, and Ermengard his wife, in the year 1162. Some of the ruins of this abbey are still standing, and near it are the remains of an ancient castle.

IVINGO was formerly a town of great repute, and had a convent of Benedictine nuns, but it is so reduced at present as to be little better than a village, though it has a kind of weekly-market.—About four miles from Ivingo is the pleasant village of *Ashbridge*, which is delightfully situated. The Duke of Bridgewater has a fine house and gardens here, with parks well stored with all sorts of game. Vast numbers of cattle are fed in the neighbourhood of *Ashbridge*, particularly sheep, whose fleeces are equal, if not superior, to any other in England.

T R I N G.

This is a market-town in Hertfordshire, thirty-one miles from London, situated at the western extremity of the county, where it joins with Buckinghamshire. It is a place of considerable antiquity, as appears from Doomsday Book, wherein it is mentioned as a royal demesne, and as such it was given by William the Norman to his favourite, Robert Earl of Ewe. The town, though small, is extremely neat, with some very handsome houses in it; and the church is a venerable Gothic structure, the inside of which has been neatly wainscotted, at the expence of Mr. Gore. This gentleman, who is lord of the manor, has enclosed a park, near the town, containing three hundred acres of land, and in it is a fine plantation of trees, resembling a wood. Here is a charity-school for teaching and cloathing twenty boys, supported by subscription. At a village called *Little Tring*, in this parish, rises one of the heads of the river Thames. Tring is a considerable market for corn, of which there are here very large granaries.

In 1751, John Osborne, and his wife Ruth, both poor aged people, were dragged to a deep pond near this town, and there ducked, by a large mob assembled for the purpose, who had ignorantly supposed that this couple were a witch and wizzard. They stripped them both naked, tied their thumbs and great toes together, and in that manner threw them three different times into the pond; but the poor woman, who was seventy years of age, died in the water. They then took John Osborne to a neighbouring house, where they laid him in bed, and the body of his murdered wife beside him, after which they dispersed to their own homes. But Thomas Colley, the ringleader of the mob, was afterwards apprehended, and tried for murder at Hertford. He was found guilty, and executed at Tring, his body being hung in chains.

B E R K H A M S T E D.

This town, which is twenty-seven miles from London, was anciently a Roman town, and Roman coins have often been dug up here. Some of the Saxon Kings kept their courts, and held their great councils at this place. William the Norman swore here to the English nobility, that he would preserve the laws made by his predecessors. Robert de Morton, Earl of Cornwall, built a castle on the north side of this town, the remains of which are converted into a gentleman's seat.

King Henry II. kept his court here, and granted the town several privileges, particularly that its merchandize should pass free of toll and custom through England, Normandy, Aquitaine, and Anjou, and that no judicial process should be executed by any of the King's officers, within its liberties, but only by its own high steward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market should be kept within seven miles of it, and that the inhabitants should not be obliged to attend at any assizes or sessions. In the reign of Henry the Third it was a borough, and in the fourteenth of king Edward the Third sent members to parliament. There are no less than fifty three townships belonging to the manor, which derives its name from this town, which are obliged to pay homage, and chuse constables here. Of these townships there are eleven in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamshire, and twenty-seven in Northamptonshire. King James the First, to whose children this place was a nursery, made it a corporation, by the name of bailiff and burgeses of Berkhamsted St. Peter; the burgeses to be twelve, to chuse a recorder and town clerk, and to have a prison: but the corporation was so impoverished by the civil wars, in the next reign, that the government dropped, and has not since been renewed.

The situation of Berkhamsted is extremely pleasant, being built on the side of a hill, chiefly consisting of a good street of considerable length. The church is a spacious Gothic edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories, where mass used to be said in the times of Popery. On the pillars of the church are eleven of the apostles, and over each of them a sentence of the creed; and on the twelfth pillar is St. George killing the dragon. Here is an alms-house built by Mr. John Sayer and his wife, who endowed it with 1300*l.* for the maintenance of six poor widows. Here is also a charity-school, and a free-grammar-school; the grammar-school is a handsome brick structure, and is well endowed, the King being patron, and the warden of All Soul's college in Oxford, visitor.

H E M P S T E D

Is four miles from Berkhamsted, and twenty-three from London. It was incorporated by King Henry VIII. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are empowered to have a common seal, and a pye powder court, during its market and fairs. It is pleasantly situated on a small river, called the Gade, and surrounded with hills. The church, which stands at a little distance from the town, is an ancient Gothic structure, with a square tower, and a fine spire. The market here is the greatest in Hertfordshire for wheat; and 20,000l. is said to be often returned weekly for meal. There are eleven mills stand within four miles of the place, which bring a great trade to it.

About four miles from Hempsted is *King's Langley*, which is a large and pleasant village, where King Edward III. built a fine palace, wherein he often resided, of which some part still remains. And here his fifth son Edmund, commonly called De Langley, was born; and this prince, with his wife Isabel, daughter of Don Pedro, King of Castile, lies buried in this church, which is a venerable Gothic structure.

Abbots Langley is another agreeable village in this neighbourhood, which belonged to the abbey of St. Albans. The church is an handsome edifice, situated in the middle of the village, and at the west end is a fine tower. This was the birth-place of Nicholas Breakepeare, who was elected pope under the name of Adrian IV.

Redburne is a village on the high road leading to Dunstable, which contains many handsome houses, and several good inns; for being a great thoroughfare, the waggons from Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, and many other places, put up at it the night before they reach London. It is an agreeable place, and was formerly much frequented by devotees, on account of the pretended relics of Amphibalus, a martyr, who is said to have preached the gospel here in the third century.

Flamstead, on the left of the high road, about four miles beyond Redburn, was formerly a market town, and had several fairs; but they are discontinued. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, situated on a hill, with a square tower and a lofty spire, which are seen at a great distance. The church has three isles, and in them are several ancient monuments.

STEVENAGE is a small, but ancient market-town in Hertfordshire, in the great north-road. The church was built upon
a dry

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a dry sandy hill; the houses in the town are but indifferent; but there is a good free-school, with an ancient hospital, and several alms-houses.—A little to the south of this town are the remains of an antient camp, by some supposed to have been made by the Romans, although others have ascribed it to the Danes; and there is a place near it still known by the name of Danes-end.

STANDON is a small town on the river Rib, which has an handsome church, and several endowments for a school, and for the poor.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Is thirty miles from London, and thirteen from Stevenage. It derives its name from a ford over the river Stort, at the bottom of the town, which, ever since the time of William the Norman, has belonged to the bishops of London. King John made this a corporation town, with power to chuse its own officers, and it formerly sent members to parliament, but has long ago lost that privilege. The bishop of London appoints a bailiff here, for what is called his liberty, and to him are directed sheriff's warrants, to be executed in this and several of the neighbouring parishes. The bishop holds his courts leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town.

This is a considerable well-built place, full of good inns, being a thoroughfare to Cambridge, New-Market, and several towns in Suffolk. It consists of four streets, in the form of a cross, pointing east, west, north, and south. It has a church, which stands on a hill, in the middle of the town, with an handsome tower, a fine ring of eight bells, and a spire, covered with lead, fifty feet high. This church had an organ so long ago as the time of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, because in one of the windows were the names and pictures of king Athelstan, St. Edward, and king Edward. Here are two alms-houses and a grammar-school; the school was built about half a century ago, by the contribution of the gentry, both of this county and Essex. It stands in the high street, upon arches, under which are shops and a market; it fronts the church-yard, and consists of three rooms, which, with the stair-case, make a square building; the front to the street is the grammar-school, and the two wings are the writing-school and library, to which every scholar, when he leaves the school, gives a book.

The village of *Hunsdon*, which is situated on the river Stort, was so much esteemed in former times for its healthy situation, that
King

King Henry VIII. erected a house here, to which he often resorted, and in which he had his children brought up. It stands on a high hill, from whence there is a most delightful prospect; and underneath are meadows, with the river winding in the most agreeable manner. Near it is the house where the royal children received their education, which is now the seat of a private gentleman. The gardens are laid out with great taste, and there is a large basin, from whence water is conveyed to the different plantations in the gardens.

B U N T I N G F O R D

Is a small town, situated at the ford of the small river, called the Rib, in the post-road to Cambridge, at the distance of thirty-one miles from London. It stands in four parishes, to one of which, called Layston, it is a chapelry. The chapel is an handsome brick structure, finished in 1626. Here is a sumptuous alms-house, founded and endowed by Dr. Seth Ward, Bishop of Salisbury, for four antient men, and as many antient women, who, from a state of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty. Each man, and each woman, has an apartment consisting of four rooms, two above and two below, with every convenience that can be reasonably wished for or expected. An estate was also left for their support, by the same prelate. There is a free-grammar-school in this town, wherein Bishop Ward was educated, he being a native of this place; he gave four scholarships of twelve pounds a year, to Christ's college in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four scholars, natives of Hertfordshire, who were educated at this school, till they are masters of arts.

The village of *Braughing*, which is at a little distance from hence, was considered as a place of great importance when the Romans were in Britain; and by many is supposed to be the *Casseromagum* of Antoninus. There are near it the ruins of a Roman camp, which appears to have been strongly fortified, and many coins have been dug up near it. The church in this village is a very handsome edifice. Near the church-yard is an old house, at present inhabited by poor families, but which was originally designed for a very different purpose. Some centuries ago, a person of fortune, whose name is not at present known, built this house, and endowed it with a sufficient salary, to defray the expences attending the weddings of the poorer sort of people in the parish. It contained all sorts of necessary furniture, with a large kitchen, a cauldron for boiling meat, and spits for what they intended to roast. Here was also a large room for merri-
ment,

ment, a lodging-room with a bride-bed, and good linen; some of which furniture was in being a few years ago.

BARKWAY is a flourishing and populous town, at the distance of thirty-five miles from London, and being a considerable thoroughfare in the north-road, contains some good inns. The church in this town is an handsome Gothic structure, and several of the windows in it are painted; and in one of them is an absurd and superstitious representation of the Deity creating the world, which is a disgrace to a Protestant church.

BALDOCK is thirty-seven miles from London, and stands between two hills, in a chalky soil, fit for corn. It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is an handsome church, with three chancels, and a beautiful tower: among other benefactions to the poor of the place, Mr. John Winne gave 11,000*l.* to build six alms-houses, and purchase lands to raise an annuity of forty shillings a piece to every poor person settled in them. Here are many maltsters, and the market of this town is very considerable, both for corn and malt.

HITCHING

Is one of the best built, and most populous towns in the county of Hertford. It stands in a pleasant valley, at the distance of thirty-four miles from London; and is governed by a bailiff and four constables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts. It is divided into the three wards of Bancroft, Bridge, and Tilt-house. It is said to have been formerly one of the greatest places of inland trade in England, and many merchants both from France and Flanders resided here, to purchase our commodities, and to dispose of their own: Here is an handsome church, 153 feet long, and 67 broad, with three chancels. Here is a free-school, a charity-school, and eight alms-houses. Large quantities of malt are made in this town, and it is a great market for all sorts of grain. There is a meeting here for Protestant Dissenters.

The village of *Hexton*, near Hitching, is remarkable for a bloody battle fought between the Saxons and Danes, wherein it is supposed some persons of considerable note were slain, because there are several funeral monuments near the place. There is also at a little distance from hence a very strong camp, which is conjectured to have been thrown up by the Danes, to defend themselves in case of their being defeated, until they received fresh succours from their countrymen. It is raised in an oblong manner, and so strongly fortified both by nature and art, that a thousand men might defend themselves in it against a consider-

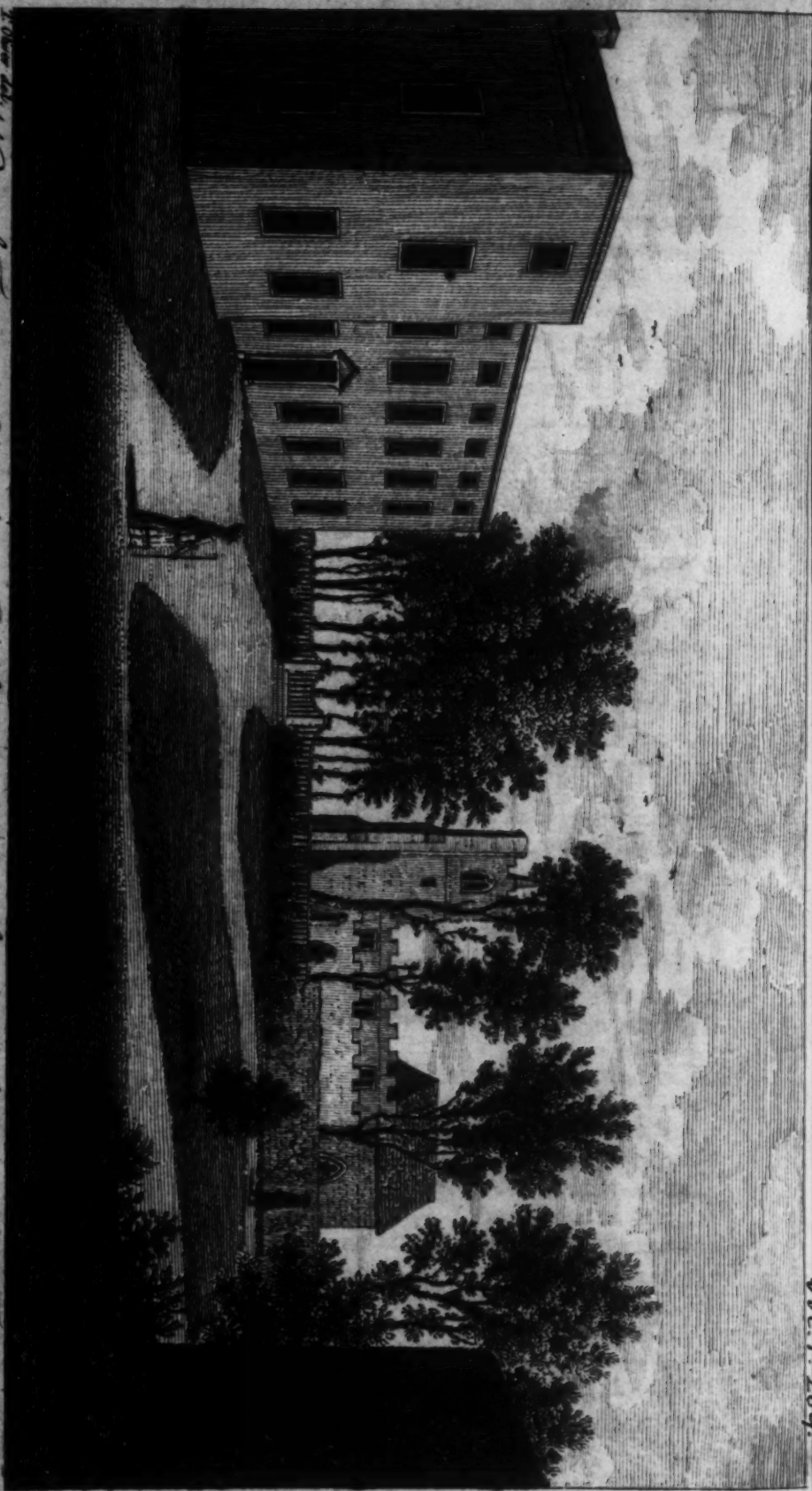
able army.—A little to the south of Hexton, is a fine piece of ground, called *Lilibo*, on a rising ground, where horse-races are held, and from whence there is an extensive and beautiful prospect.

L U T O N.

This is an handsome town in Bedfordshire, situated between two hills, at the distance of thirty-two miles from London. The inhabitants carry on a considerable manufactory of straw hats. In the middle of the town is a good market-house, which on the market-day, which is Monday, is well furnished with corn, poultry, and other provisions; and there are two fairs held here, one on the 25th of April, and the other on the 18th of October.

At a little distance from hence is LUTON HOO, a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Bute. It is an elegant pile of building, and that nobleman, who seems to understand decorating a country seat, much better than governing a kingdom, has expended very considerable sums of money, in ornamenting this retreat. The entrance to it is through a lodge facing the town of Luton, and the walk up to the house is along a fine artificial river, which was formerly nothing more than a small stream. On the right hand is a rising ground, whereon are some exceeding fine plantations, and on the left are a vast number of trees, planted so as to imitate nature, along the banks of the stream. The Earl has caused an artificial lake to be made, and in the middle of it is a small island, to which you pass by a pleasure boat, and from whence the prospect is extensive and delightful.

On the island are fine plantations of young trees; and as you advance towards the house, you pass through a fine row of elms, and on each side are large clumps of beech, which add greatly to the beauty of the scene. Through these trees there is a fine prospect of the neighbouring hills, fields, and cottages; whilst the towers and spires of steeples, lead the spectator into a pleasing deception, by causing him to imagine, that what he beholds is actually a rural city. In a pleasing valley, near the house, is a monumental pillar, elegantly executed in the Tuscan order, and seen to the greatest advantage through the trees, on the pedestal of which is the following inscription, "In memory of
" Mr. Francis Napier."



View of St. Andrew's Church in Bedfordshire taken from the Garden of J. Fisher Esq.

DUNSTABLE

Is a populous town, thirty-four miles from London, built on the spot where two Roman ways, called Watling-street, and Icknild-street, cross each other; and Roman coins have sometimes been found here. The town is situated on a hill of chalk, just at the end of a long ridge of hills, called the Chiltern. Here are four streets, answering to the four cardinal winds; and because of the dryness of the soil, where they cannot find springs, have each a pond, which though only supplied by rain water, is never dry. There are several good inns here. King Henry the First built and endowed a Priory of Black Canons here; and the church of Dunstable is part of that which belonged to the Priory, and is a noble Gothic structure. There is a tomb-stone in this church, from which it appears, that a woman in the town had nineteen children at five births, having been delivered twice of five, and three times of three. There is a large manufactory of straw hats carried on in this town, and another of lace, by which almost all the poor women and girls are employed. There was formerly a royal palace here, which stood over-against the church, and there are still some remains of it, which have been repaired and converted into a farm-house, still called Kingsbury. At the weekly market, which is on Wednesday, vast quantities of corn are sold; and there are four fairs held here annually, namely, on Ash-Wednesday, the 22d of May, the 12th of August, and the 12th of November.

In a plain upon the top of the chalk-hills, near Dunstable, is an area, of about eight or nine acres of land, vulgarly called "the Maiden's Bower." Some have imagined it to have been a British camp, and others a work thrown up by the Danes. The rampart is high, and the Icknild street runs along the bottom of the hill. The road along the chalk-hill is extremely dangerous in frosty weather, and has occasioned many fatal accidents, both to men and horses. But some years ago the gentlemen of Bedfordshire entered into a subscription, for sloping the hill, near the town, for the benefit of the road, and there are constantly employed a certain number of hands to keep it in order.—Dunstable is remarkable for larks, which are said to be in greater plenty, and of a larger size, near this town, than any where else in the kingdom.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD is a small market-town, seven miles and an half from Dunstable, which has little in it that is remarkable; but its market is well stored with cattle, and its Whitsuntide fairs with horses.

W O B U R N

Is a small market-town, forty-three miles from London, and being situated on the road to Northampton, &c. contains many good inns. The whole town belongs to the Duke of Bedford, and that noble family have endowed here two charity-schools. In 1724, about one hundred houses were burnt down, which are since neatly re-built; and a fine market-house has been erected, at the expence of the Duke of Bedford; so that the town now makes an handsome appearance. The principal trade of this place consists in the making of jockey's caps, and digging fuller's earth, of which there are great quantities in the neighbourhood.

WOBURN ABBEY, the noble seat of the Duke of Bedford, is in the neighbourhood of this town; and was originally built by Hugh Bolebec, a powerful baron in the reign of King Stephen. It was intended for the use of the monks of the Cistercian order, who came in great swarms into this kingdom in the twelfth century. At the dissolution of the monasteries, the lands and manors belonging to this abbey, were given to Sir John Russel, ancestor of the present Duke; and this spacious and elegant house, which is situated in the middle of the park, is erected where the convent formerly stood.

The house forms a large quadrangle, with an handsome court in the center, fronting which is a large basin, supplied with water from its own springs. Behind are two large quadrangles of offices distinct from the house, which are very beautiful buildings; plain and simple, but extremely proper for their destination. They are built like the house, of white stone; and in the center of their principal front is a small dome, rising over a porticoed center, supported by Tuscan pillars, which have a very good effect.

In the house you enter first the *Hall*, which is an handsome room, the cieling of which is supported by eight pillars. The *Green Drawing Room* is extremely elegant: between the windows are fine glasses, and two very noble slabs of Egyptian marble. The chimney-piece is of white marble polished, and very handsome. In this room are pictures of the plagues of Egypt, David and Abigail, and a very fine landscape. What is called the *Decker-worked Room* contains a bed of uncommon elegance, of decker work lined with green silk. The work is exquisite, and the representation of the birds and beasts in it admirable. The chimney-piece is very elegant; the scroll of polished white marble in a light and elegant taste.

The

The *Dining Room* is a very noble room. The chimney-piece is elegant, with a festoon of flowers carved in white marble, and finely polished. In this room are four large pictures of the battles of Alexander. In the *Yellow Drawing Room* are two fine portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds, one of the late Marquis of Tavistock, and the other of the present Dutchess of Marlborough. The chimney-piece is very elegant, and the pier-glass frame finely carved of plated silver. Here is also a portrait of the late Duke of Bedford.

In the *Coffee-Room* is a small portrait of Francis, Earl of Bedford, which is exceedingly fine, the face and hands admirably painted. The *Grotto* is pretty of its kind; with bass relief figures of rustics in shells, and fine china jars. The *Billiard Room* is hung with very fine tapestry, designed from Raphael's cartoons. The *Dutchess's Dressing Room* is extremely elegant, hung with embossed work on white paper, which has a very pleasing effect. The chimney-piece has a carved scroll in wood, the marble black and veined. The pier-glass is large, and the frame very elegant; and over the chimney-piece is a portrait of Lady Osford, by Hudson. The chairs and sofas are of painted taffeta.

The *French Bed-chamber* is exceedingly elegant; the bed and hangings are of a very rich belmozeen silk. The chimney-piece is light and beautiful; the cornice festoons of gilt carving on a white ground, and the ceiling the same on a lead ground; the pier-glass and frame, and the frame of the landscape over the chimney are very elegant.

The *Dressing Room* is likewise hung with the same silk, the ceiling and cornice richly ornamented with scrolls of gilding on a white ground: the chimney-piece is all of white marble polished. The doors, door-cases, and window-shutters, &c. are all ornamented like the ceiling, in white and gold. In this room are four very large blue and white china jars; the two by the windows are uncommonly fine.

The *State Bed-chamber* is most magnificently furnished. The bed and hangings are of very rich blue damask; the ceiling ornamented in compartments of rich gilding on a white ground. The chimney-piece, of marble polished, is very elegant; and the carved and gilt ornaments around the landscape over it in a beautiful taste: the toilette is all of very handsome Dresden work, the glass frame, and boxes of gold. An India cabinet on each side of old japan, with coloured china jars exquisitely fine.

The *Dressing Room* is hung with green damask; the chimney-piece is very handsome, and the pier-glass fine. The *Drawing Room* is exceedingly elegant; the ceiling a Mosaic pattern of rich carving on a white ground; the chimney-piece excessively

handsome, the cornice supported by double pillars, of very fine Siena marble. The pier-glasses immensely large, and in one plate; under them most noble slabs of Siena marble. In this room are several exquisite paintings, particularly a landscape by Claude Lorraine, representing a ship partly appearing from behind a building amazingly beautiful; the diffusion of light, the general brilliancy, and the harmony of the whole, are admirable. A holy family, very fine, the turn of the boy's head is inimitable. A virgin and child; the hair of the virgin's head, and her attitude are most sweetly elegant and expressive. A Magdalen; very fine. The inside of a church; the minute expression of the architecture, and the rays of light are finely done. A rock, with the broken branches hanging from its clefts, supposed to be by Salvator; the expression is very noble, and the romantic wildness of the scene most excellently represented. A holy family; the child standing in the cradle; a very pleasing picture. Joseph interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh, by Rembrandt; most admirably executed; in a greater style than is common with this master. Rembrandt by himself; inimitably done. The Dutches of Bedford, presenting Lady Caroline to Minerva, by Hamilton; this is a very large picture, and some of the figures not inelegantly done for this master.

The *Saloon* is most magnificently fitted up, and elegantly furnished; the ceiling beautiful, of gilt carving on white; the door-case finely carved and gilt, the cornices supported by Corinthian pillars in a noble, but a light and pleasing style; the chimney-piece of white marble, beautifully polished: in the center hangs a magnificent lustre. Here is a fine picture representing the last supper; the drawing is in a free and bold style; and a fine piece of angels, supposed to be painted by Albano.

The *Second Dining Room* is a very noble room, the ceiling white and gold, and the chimney-piece very elegant, over which is a fine landscape. The *Second Drawing Room* is very elegantly fitted up; and among other pictures contains two capital landscapes, morning and evening, by Marrat; two paintings of battles; and one of lions, by Rubens. The *Picture Gallery* is ornamented by a vast number of elegant portraits of the Ruffel family; and among those which are most finely executed, are the portraits of William, Earl of Bedford, the Countess of Somerset, and Lady Catharine Brooke. The ornaments of this room are all carving painted white. There are four statues here, one of which is a Venus of Medicis, and another Venus plucking a thorn from out of her foot.

WOBBURN PARK is one of the largest in the kingdom, being ten miles round, all walled in, and contains a great variety of hill and dale, with fine woods of the noblest oaks. We pass from

from the house through them towards the south, and look up the great glade, which is cut through the park for several miles, at the end of which appears a Chinese temple. Then winding through the woods we come to the Dutchess's Shrubbery, which contains sixteen acres of land beautifully laid out in the modern taste, with many venerable oaks in it. From whence we advance to the hill at the north end, from which is a vast prospect into Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire. Turning down the hill to the left, the riding leads to the ever-green plantation of above two hundred acres of land, which little more than thirty years ago was a barren rabbit warren, but is now a very beautiful winter's ride, on a dry soil, with all kinds of ever-greens of a noble growth. About the middle on the left hand side, is an handsome temple, retired and pleasing: at the end of this plantation, we come to the lower water, which is about ten acres, and in the center is an island with a very elegant and light Chinese temple, large enough for thirty people to dine in; and in the adjoining wood is a kitchen, and other accommodations, for making ready the repasts the Duke takes in the temple. And in the front of the house is a large basin of water, in which are several handsome boats.

A M P T H I L L

Is a small market-town, forty-four miles from London, pleasantly situated between two hills, almost in the heart of Bedfordshire. Here is a charity-school, and an hospital for ten poor men, who have each a considerable weekly allowance.— This place is chiefly remarkable for a large mansion-house, which belongs also to the Duke of Bedford. It was repaired and fitted up in 1765, for the use of the late Marquis of Tavistock. It was first built by Sir John Cornwall, in the reign of King Henry VI. out of the spoils taken from the French; but afterwards came by forfeiture to the crown. Queen Katherine of Arragon sometimes resided in this house, after her divorce from Henry VIII. The Hall is adorned with a capital collection of paintings by the best Italian masters, which the late Marquis of Tavistock collected whilst he was abroad on his travels.

At *Houghton Park*, near *Amptill*, the Earl of Upper Ossory has a fine seat, which was first built by the Countess of Pembroke. The house is a noble and venerable edifice, containing many fine rooms; and the gardens are laid out with much taste and magnificence. There is still a large pear-tree here, under which the celebrated Sir Philip Sydney is said to have written part of his *Arcadia*.

Westoning

Wrestling is a pleasant village, which has a venerable church, that stands in an agreeable and rural situation. The Earl of Pomfret has a seat here.

Near Silsoe is *WREST-HOUSE*, a magnificent seat, with a large park, which belonged to the ancient family of De Grey, Dukes of Kent. It now belongs to the Earl of Hardwicke, who acquired it by his marriage with Jemima Marchioness Grey, and Baroness Lucas, who is a peeress in her own right. In an hermitage here is the following inscription, which was written by a person who came on a visit to this agreeable retreat.

"Stranger, or guest, whome'er this hallow'd grove
 "Shall chance relieve, where sweet contentment dwells,
 "Bring here no heart that with ambition swells,
 "With av'rice pines, or burns with lawless love,
 "Vice-tainted souls will all in vain remove
 "To sylvan shades, and hermits peaceful cells;
 "In vain will seek retirement's lenient spells,
 "Or hope that bliss, which only good men prove,
 "If heav'n-born truth, and sacred virtue's love,
 "Which cheer, adorn, and dignify the mind,
 "Are constant inmates of thy honest breast;
 "If, unrepining at thy neighbour's store,
 "Thou count'st as thine, the good of all mankind,
 "Then, welcome, share the friendly groves of *Wrest*."

At a little distance from hence is the village of *Clophill*, which is a pretty rural place, not far from which is a fine seat belonging to Earl Granville, known by the name of *Hawnes*.

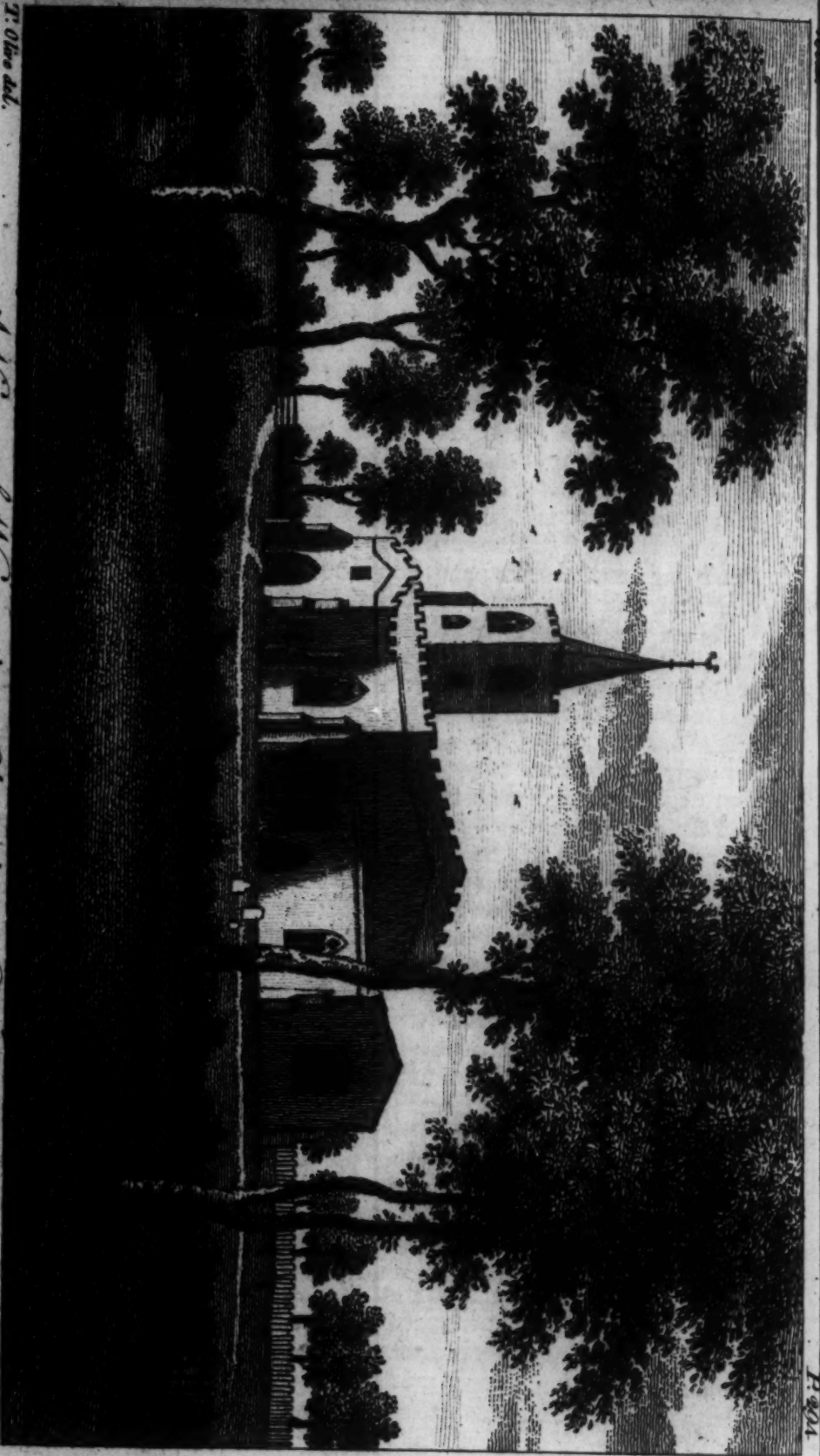
SHEFFORD is a small market-town, pleasantly situated between two rivulets, over each of which there is a bridge.—At a little distance from hence is *Chicksand Priory*, the seat of Sir George Osborne, Bart.

At *Southill*, in this neighbourhood, is a fine seat of the Lord Torrington.

At *Northill*, there is a very fine window in the chancel of the church, painted by Oliver; and the rector of that church has two small pieces of painted glass by the same master, which are of uncommon excellence.—The parish of *Sandy*, near Northill, is much noted for its gardens; there are above one hundred and fifty acres of land occupied by many gardeners, who supply the whole country, for many miles, with garden stuff, even to Hertford.

Cardington is a very neat and agreeable village; most of the houses and cottages are new-built, all of them tiled, and many of brick; which, with white pales, and little plantations, have a most pleasing effect.

View of Westoning Church in Bedfordshire.



B E D F O R D

Is forty-eight miles from London, and is the county-town, being a clean, well-built, and populous place. The town, as well as the county, is divided into two parts by the river Ouse, which crosses it in the direction of east and west: the north and south parts of the town are joined by a stone-bridge, which has two gates. The assizes are always held here; and the town is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, and other officers. There are five churches here, three on the north, and two on the south side of the river. The chief of them, and indeed the principal ornament of the town, is St. Paul's, which had once a college of prebendaries. There was a famous castle here, which was demolished in the reign of Henry VIII. and the site is now a bowling-green: it stands high and pleasant, and is reckoned one of the finest in England.

There is a good free-school in this town, which was founded by Sir William Harpur, Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This gentleman was a native of Bedford, and now lies buried in one of the churches. Near the free-school are two ancient hospitals, for lazars, and an alms-house for eight poor persons, besides a charity-school for forty children, partly endowed, and partly supported by voluntary subscription. But the most considerable provision made for the poor of Bedford was, a field where Bedford Row stands, behind Gray's Inn, London, which at the time the donation was made produced only a small rent, but now, by the encrease of buildings, and the expiration of leases, is become extremely valuable. It was given to the town, that the rents might be applied to the portioning young women, when they entered into the marriage state, and to put out poor children as apprentices. If this large estate be managed with judgment and integrity, it may be rendered a charitable institution of a very extensive and beneficial nature.

Bedford sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by all the freemen, the mayor being the returning officer. The liberties of the corporation extend about nine miles round the town. There are some good inns here, and provisions of all sorts are in great plenty. There is a lace manufactory here, which employs about five hundred women and girls.

The *Vale of Bedford*, which is a perfect flat tract of land for some miles round the town, is very rich in soil, and excellently cultivated, producing noble crops of wheat, barley and turnips.

At

At *Clapham*, about two miles from Bedford, is a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Ashburnham; and near it is *Oakley*, a seat belonging to the Duke of Bedford. At *Brumham*, which is on the west side of the river Ouse, Lord Trevor has a fine seat.

Harewood, or *Harold*, is a place of considerable antiquity, but is now reduced to a village. Here was formerly a nunnery of the order of St. Augustine. Part of the church is still remaining, and appears to have been a very elegant Gothic building.

B I G G L E S W A D E

Is a market-town, five miles from Bedford, and forty-five from London. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Ivel, over which there is a good stone-bridge; and lighters come up with coals to the town. There was formerly a small college for secular priests here. At present the town is in a flourishing condition, and has some good inns in it, being a great thoroughfare in the road from London to York. Its weekly market is on Tuesday, and it is reckoned one of the greatest in England for barley.

There is a village, called *Wardon*, near *Biggleswade*, where a monastery was founded for the monks of the Cistercian order, in the latter end of the reign of King Henry I. which was endowed with lands to a considerable value.

BEFORE we conclude this Volume, we shall make some general remarks on the several COUNTIES, in which those places are situated, which we have already described.

SURREY is bounded by the river Thames, which parts it from Middlesex, on the north; by Suffex on the south; by Kent on the east; and by Berkshire and Hampshire on the west. It is about thirty-four miles in length, twenty-one in breadth, and one hundred and twelve miles in circumference; and contains thirteen hundreds, one hundred and forty parishes, thirteen market-towns, four hundred and fifty villages and hamlets, and about five hundred and ninety-two thousand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Winchester.

The air and soil of the middle and extreme parts of this county are very different. Towards the borders of the county, especially on the north-side, near the Thames, and on the south-

south-side, in and near a vale called Holmsdale, that stretches for several miles from Darking to the county of Kent, the air is mild and healthy, and the soil fruitful in corn and hay, with a fine mixture of woods and fields; but in some parts of the county the air is rather bleak. Surrey contains many delightful places, though some parts of it consist chiefly of open and sandy ground, and barren heaths. The air of Cottman Deant, near Darking, has been reputed the best in England. The principal commodities of this county are corn, box-wood, walnuts, and fullers earth. There is a kind of wild black cherry, that grows about Darking, of which the inhabitants make considerable quantities of red wine, which is said to be little inferior to French claret, and much more wholesome. The county in general is well provided with river fish, and the Wandle is famous for plenty of fine trout.

The rivers of this county are the Thames, the Mole, the Wey, and the Wandle. The *Mole* rises near Oakley, south-west of Darking, and running eastward for several miles, along the borders of Suffex, forms an angle, and directs its course north-west. At the bottom of a hill called Boxhill, near Darking, the stream disappears, and passes under ground in a place called the Swallow, probably from the river being swallowed up there. From this circumstance the river is also sometimes called the Swallow; and it appears to have derived the name *Mole* from working its way under ground; for it is generally believed, that from the bottom of Box-hill, where it is swallowed up, it works a passage for more than two miles to Leatherhead, where it is supposed to spring up anew; and from whence it continues its course northward, till it falls into the Thames, over-against Hampton Court, in the county of Middlesex. Some late writers have, however, been of opinion; that the stream of the *Mole* is altogether lost at the Swallow, and is not the same that rises at Leatherhead; but rather that the waters issue from a new spring; and that the river formed by them is another river; though, from a belief of its being the same river, it obtained the same name. The *Wey* rises not far from Alton, a market-town of Hampshire, and directing its course eastwards, enters this county at Farnham, from whence it passes on in the same direction to Godalming, and there forming an angle, it runs northward by Guildford, from thence to Woking, and running north-east, empties itself by a double mouth into the Thames, about a mile from Chertsey. This river is navigable to Godalming, and its navigation is of great benefit to the south-west parts of Surrey, by supplying the inhabitants with coals, and many other necessities, from London. The *Wandle*, or *Vandal*, rises at Carshalton, near Croydon, and running north,

with a small, but clear stream, falls into the river Thames at Wandsworth.

MIDDLESEX derives its name from its having been inhabited by the Middle Saxons, who were thus distinguished, on account of their situation in the Middle between the three antient kingdoms of the East, West, and South Saxons, by which they were surrounded. This county is bounded by Hertfordshire on the north; by the river Thames, which divides it from the county of Surrey, on the south; by the river Colne, which separates it from Buckinghamshire, on the west; and by the river Lea, which divides it from the county of Essex, on the east. It extends scarcely twenty-four miles in length, about eighteen in breadth, and is not more than ninety-five miles in circumference; but as it comprehends the cities of London and Westminster, which stand in the south-east part of the county, it is by much the wealthiest and most populous county in England. It is divided into six hundreds, and two liberties; and contains two cities, and five market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of London; and, exclusive of London and Westminster, has seventy-three parish churches, besides chapels of ease.

The air of Middlesex is very pleasant and healthy, to which a fine gravelly soil contributes not a little. The soil produces plenty of corn; and the county abounds with fine fertile meadows and gardeners grounds; for the art of gardening, assisted by the rich compost from London, is brought to much greater perfection in this county than in any other part of England.

The rivers of this county are the Thames, the Colne, the Lea, and the New River. The *Thames* is one of the finest and most beautiful rivers in the world; and at London, the depth of it is sufficient, not only for the navigation of large ships, but for making it, what it really is, one of the greatest ports for trade in the universe. Its water is exceedingly wholesome, and fit for use in the longest voyages, during which, it will work and ferment itself like strong liquor, till it becomes perfectly fine. It abounds with a great variety of fish, among which, its salmons, smelts, and flounders, are particularly admired.

ESSEX is bounded by Suffolk and Cambridgeshire on the north; by the German Ocean on the east; by the river Thames, which separates it from the county of Kent on the south; and by the counties of Middlesex and Hertford on the west. It is about fifty miles in length, thirty-five in breadth, and one hundred and forty in circumference; and contains twenty hundreds, twenty-two market-towns, four hundred and fifteen parishes, and

and one million two hundred and forty thousand acres. It abounds with corn, cattle, and wild fowl; and the north parts of it, especially about Saffron-walden, produce great quantities of saffron. Abundance of oxen and sheep are fed in the marshes near the Thames, and sent to the markets of London. The inhabitants of this county have plenty of fish of all sorts from the sea and rivers; and by the sea-side are decoys, which, in the winter season, produce great profit to their owners. Towards the sea, the air of this county is agreeable, though it is more so in regard to strangers than the natives. The principal manufactures of this county are cloths and stuffs, but particularly bays and says, of which, not half a century ago, such quantities were exported to Spain and the Spanish colonies in America, to cloath the nuns and friars, that there has often been a return from London of thirty thousand pounds a week, in ready money only, to Colchester and a few small towns round it.

The principal rivers in this county are the Stour, the Lea, the Coln, the Blackwater, and the Chelmer. The *Stour* rises in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east, separates it from Suffolk, and falls into the German Ocean at Harwich. The *Lea* rises in the north-west part of the county, runs almost directly south, and separating Essex from the counties of Hertford and Middlesex, falls into the Thames at Blackwall. The *Coln* rises also in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east to Halsted, runs parallel to the river Stour, and passes by Colchester, where, forming an angle, it runs south-south-east, and falls into the German Ocean, about seven or eight miles south-east from that town. The *Blackwater* rises also in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east, passes by Braintree and falls into the Chelmer at Malden. The *Chelmer* rises within two or three miles of the source of the river Blackwater, and running nearly parallel to it, passes to Chelmsford, where, forming an angle, it runs directly east, and receiving the Blackwater, falls into the German Ocean near Malden.

KENT is bounded by Sussex and the English channel on the south, by the river Thames and the German sea on the north, by the same sea on the east, and by Surrey on the west. This county is divided into five lathes, which are subdivided into fourteen bailiwicks, and these again into sixty-eight hundreds. A lathe is a division peculiar to Kent and Sussex, and consists of two or more bailiwicks, as a bailiwick does of two or more hundreds. Kent contains two cities, and twenty-nine market-towns, eleven hundred and eighty villages, and about one million two hundred and forty-eight thousand acres. It lies in the province

of Canterbury, and partly in that diocese, and partly in the diocese of Rochester, and has four hundred and eight parishes.

The county is nominally divided into three districts, East-Kent, West-Kent, and South-Kent; or Upper-Kent, Middle-Kent, and Lower-Kent. Upper-Kent, or East-Kent, which is in the north-east division, is said to be healthy, but not wealthy; Lower-Kent, or the south parts, called also the Weald of Kent, are said to be wealthy, but not healthy; and Middle-Kent, bordering upon London and Surrey, is said to be both wealthy and healthy. In general, as great part of this county lies upon the sea, the air is thick, foggy, and warm, though often purified by south, and south-west winds, and the shore being generally cleaner than that of Essex, the marshy parts of Kent do not produce so many agues in the same degree as the hundreds of Essex; and the air in the higher parts of Kent is reckoned very healthy. The soil is generally rich, and fit for plough, pasture, or meadow; and that part of the county which borders upon the river Thames abounds with chalk-hills, from whence not only the city of London, and parts adjacent, but even Holland and Flanders, are supplied with lime and chalk; and from these hills the rubbish of the chalk is carried in lighters and hoys to the coasts of Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, where it is sold to the farmers as manure for their lands.

This county affords some mines of iron, and in general abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, and orchards of cherries, apples, and other fruit: it produces also wood and madder for dyers; and in the cliffs between Dover and Folkestone, there is found plenty of samphire; hemp, and St. Foin grow here in great abundance; and the south and west parts of Kent, especially that called the Weald, are covered with woods of oak, beech, and walnut trees, which afford great quantities of timber for shipping and other uses: here are also many woods of birch, from which the broom-makers in and about London are abundantly supplied. The cattle here of all sorts are reckoned larger than they are in the neighbouring counties; and the Weald of Kent is remarkable for large cattle; here are several parks of fallow deer, and warrens of grey rabbits; and this county, abounding in rivers, and being almost surrounded by the sea, is well supplied with all manner of fish, and in particular is famous for large oysters.

BERKSHIRE is bounded by Hampshire on the south; by Wiltshire and Gloucestershire on the west; by the river Thames, which divides it from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire on the north; and on the east by Middlesex and Surrey. It is about thirty-nine miles long, twenty-nine broad, and one hundred

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hundred and twenty in circumference; and contains four parliamentary boroughs, twenty hundreds, twelve market-towns, one hundred and forty parishes, and six hundred and seventy-one villages.

The air of this county is healthy even in the vales, and though the soil in general is not the most fertile, yet the appearance of the country is remarkably pleasant, being delightfully varied with wood and water, which are seen at once in almost every prospect. This county is well stored with timber, particularly oak and beech; and some parts of it produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The whole of this county is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Salisbury.

The river *Thames* washes more of this county than of any other it touches; and from this circumstance Berkshire derives both fertility, and convenience for the carriage of its commodities to London, of which it sends a great many, particularly malt, meal, and timber. There are four other rivers in the county, the *Kennet*, great part of which is navigable, the *Lodden*, the *Ocke*, and the *Lambourne*, a small stream, which contrary to all other rivers is always highest in summer, shrinks gradually as winter approaches, and at last is nearly, if not quite dry.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE is bounded by the *Thames*, which divides it from Berkshire, on the south; by Oxfordshire on the west; by Northamptonshire on the north; and by Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex on the East. It is thirty-nine miles in length, eighteen in breadth, and one hundred and thirty-eight in circumference; and contains eleven market-towns, eight hundreds, one hundred and eighty-five parishes, six hundred and fifteen villages, and about four hundred and forty-one thousand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln.

This county is diversified with pleasant woods, and fine streams, which render it a charming retreat. Its chief rivers are the *Thames*, the *Ouse*, and the *Cohn*. The soil is very fruitful, both in corn and pasture, and abounds with physical plants.

HERTFORDSHIRE is bounded by Cambridgeshire on the north; by Middlesex on the south; by Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire on the west; and by Essex on the east. It measures twenty-eight miles from east to west, thirty-six miles from north to south, and one hundred and thirty miles in circumference; and is divided into eight hundreds, in which are eighteen market-towns, one hundred and twenty parishes, and about four hundred and fifty-one thousand acres. This county is watered

tered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Lea, the Coln, the Stort, the Ver, and the New River.

The air of this county is very pure, and consequently healthy, and is often recommended by physicians to valetudinarians, for the preservation or recovery of health. The soil is for the most part rich, and in several places mixed with a marle, which produces excellent wheat and barley. The chief produce of this county is wood, wheat, barley, and all other sorts of grain; and the wheat and barley of Hertfordshire are generally held in very high estimation. This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the diocese of London, and partly in that of Lincoln.

SUSSEX derives its name from a Saxon word which signified *the County of the South Saxons*. This county is bounded on the north by Surrey; on the east and north-east by Kent; on the south by the British channel; and on the west by Hampshire. It is about sixty-five miles in length, twenty-nine in breadth, and one hundred and seven in circumference. It is divided into six rapes, or lathes, each of which is said to have had its particular castle, river and forest. It is also subdivided into sixty-five hundreds, wherein are reckoned three hundred and twelve parishes, one city, eighteen market-towns, and one thousand and sixty villages and hamlets.

The air of this county, along the sea-coast, is aguish to strangers; but the inhabitants in general are very healthy. In the north part of the county, bordering upon Kent and Surrey, the air is foggy, but not unhealthy; and upon the Downs it is exceedingly sweet and pure. The soil is various, the hilly parts less fruitful than the others; the vales, especially in that part of the county called the Weald, are dirty but very fertile. On the sea-coast are very green hills, called the South Downs, well known to travellers for their beautiful prospect, but better to those who deal in wool or sheep, there being great numbers bred here, whose wool, which is very fine, is too often exported clandestinely to France. The middle part of the county is delightfully chequered with meadows, pastures, groves, and corn-fields, which produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The north quarter is shaded with woods, from whence great quantities of excellent timber are carried to the dock-yards, and of charcoal to the iron-works, in the eastern part of the county.—The principal rivers are the *Arun*, the *Adur*, the *Ouse*, and the *Rother*. Other less considerable rivers in this county are the *Lavant*, the *Cuckmeer*, the *Ashburn*, and the *Asten*. Sussex lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Chichester.

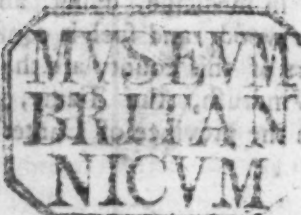
OXFORDSHIRE is bounded on the east by Buckinghamshire; on the west by Gloucestershire; on the north by Northamptonshire and Warwickshire; and on the south by Berkshire. It is about forty-two miles in length, twenty-six in breadth, and one hundred and thirty in circumference; and contains one city, fifteen market-towns, two hundred and eighty parishes, fourteen hundreds, and about five hundred and thirty-four thousand acres.

The air of Oxfordshire is as good as that of any other county in England; for the soil is naturally dry, free from bogs, fens, and stagnant waters, and abounding with quick limpid streams, that necessarily render the air sweet and healthy. The soil is in general very fertile, both for corn and grass; but there is a great variety in it, and consequently several degrees of fruitfulness. There is plenty of river fish here, of various kinds. The other productions of this county are cattle, fruit, free-stone, and several sorts of earths used in medicine, dying, and scouring; but it is thinly strewed with wood, and fuel is consequently very scarce. The principal rivers of this county are the Thames or Isis, the Evenlode, the Windrush, the Tame, and the Charwell. This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Oxford.

BEDFORDSHIRE is bounded on the south by Hertfordshire; on the north by Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; on the east by Cambridgeshire; and on the west by Buckinghamshire. It is about twenty-two miles in length, fifteen in breadth, and seventy-three in circumference. It contains nine hundreds, ten market-towns, one hundred and twenty-four parishes, five hundred and fifty villages, and about two hundred and sixty thousand acres. This county, on the north-side of the river Ouse is fruitful and woody; on the south-side it is less fertile. It produces wheat and barley in great abundance, and of an excellent kind; and it has forests and parks well stocked with deer, and fat pastures with cattle. The air is pure and healthful, and the soil in general a deep clay. The principal rivers of this county are the Ouse and the Iwell. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln.

OXFORDSHIRE is bounded on the east by Buckinghamshire; on the west by Gloucestershire; on the north by Northamptonshire and Warwickshire; and on the south by Berkshire. It is about forty-two miles in length, twenty-six in breadth, and one hundred and thirty in circumference; and contains one city, fifteen market-towns, two hundred and eighty parishes, fourteen hundred, and about five hundred and thirty-four thousand acres.

The air of Oxfordshire is as good as that of any other county in England; for the soil is naturally dry, the water is pure, and the climate is temperate, and abounding with quick and is therefore generally very fertile, both for corn and grass; but there is a great variety in it, and consequently several degrees of fertility. The soil is of several kinds of river alluvion, and several productions of the country are the richest and most valuable. Some of the earths used in the county are of a very fine and rich nature, and are very fertile. The principal rivers are the Isis, the Great Ouse, and the Cherwell. The county lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Oxford.



BEDFORDSHIRE is bounded on the north by Hertfordshire; on the north by Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; on the east by Cambridgeshire; and on the west by Buckinghamshire. It is about twenty-two miles in length, fifteen in breadth, and twenty-three in circumference. It contains nineteen cities, ten market-towns, and hundred and twenty-four parishes, five hundred and fifty villages, and about two hundred and fifty thousand acres. This county, on the north side of the Great Ouse, is fruitful and wooded, on the south side it is less fertile. It is a very fertile and rich county, and is very fertile. The soil is of several kinds, and is very fertile. The principal rivers are the Great Ouse, the Great Ouse, and the Great Ouse. The county lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln.

